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GOUKOUNI TRIP TO SUDAN MARKS 'BEGINNING OF END FOR FAN'

Niamey SAHEL HEBDO in French No 301, 18 Jan 82 pp 18-19

[Article by Saliou Diallo: "The Victory of Good Sense"]

[Excerpts] Goukouni has just traveled to Khartoum to persuade Numeyri to release Habre. Is this the beginning of the end for the FAN [Armed Forces of the North] leader?

People were ready to say that Chad had become an insoluble problem. Such is not the case. The trip which Goukouni Oueddei, president of GUNT [Transitional National Union Government], has just made to the Republic of Sudan is a very important event in the policy of peace and national reconstruction undertaken by the legitimate Chadian state and the Organization of African Unity [OAU].

What has happened in Chad since the last days in power of the late Ngarta Tombolbaye and the present is a drama without precedent since the attainment of independence of the African territories. Therefore, it was and is a duty of the OAU to seek as quickly as possible a way to get the Chadian people out of this tragic situation.

However, between the time Tombolbaye was deposed and the GUNT was installed in Ndjamena as the legitimate representative of all the peoples of Chad without distinction because of their ethnic origin or religious preference, the Chadian nation was literally in a state of decomposition, to the point that an African newspaper which is no longer in existence published the following headline on page 1: "The Ruination of a State."

An Equation Which Daily Presents New Data Unknown the Day Before

The recent history of Chad is marked by many grave political incidents involving factions inside and outside the country, regional frictions and ambition for power. How could it be possible seriously to envision the return of peace and national integrity as long as 11 factions were fighting over the exclusive right to the country and so long as each faction presented itself as the only one capable of running the Chadian nation? Unlike what happened in Angola, for example, where three liberation movements which had unequally achieved victories over Portuguese colonialism, were fighting for power on the basis of political programs and definite objectives, in Chad the situation was more of an imbroglio,

even though we were able to distinguish a clear tendency in the direction of political adventurism on the part of some of these candidates for power.

And it was not by chance that Goukouni during a recent interview on British TV, said that his government would never consider reaching an accommodation with the former minister of national defense, Hissein Habre, who once again is in a state of rebellion.

Obviously not only is Habre opposing the march toward peace in the sense understood by GUNT and the OAU, but there are also individuals or groups that, although wishing peace without which they will be unable to accede to the supreme authority, are playing the game of foreign interests and of countries that have admitted their ambition to set up vassals of which they would be the lord and master.

GUNT Holds the Best Hand

It often happens that an international organization, in this instance the OAU, takes positions which give rise to much shilly-shallying and vehement criticism, justified or not; however, in the case of Chad, the African organization cannot be faulted or even accused of partiality by giving its support to the Transitional National Government of Chad. It would also be unjust to question the good faith of this government's wishing to assure the peace and national unity of Chad, both as regards the previous and present political realities of the country and the men who for almost a decade have attempted to seize power.

Observers have spoken about certain Chadian political personalities and generals without an army, an allusion to Dr Abba Siddick, the successor of Ibrahim Abatcha as the head of FROLINAT, who surely has a clear political vision but who, unfortunately, has little popular support. On the other hand, there are groups which have had chiefs without the slightest backing. That was the case of several factions founded on considerations of a tribal or religious nature.

Two Men Definitely Rise Out of the Melee To Fight for Power

These men are Goukouni Oueddei and Hissein Habre. They traveled a long way together until the latter struck off in another direction. Natives of the north, which previously was abandoned by a policy of excessive decentralization, these two men fought side by side in the "maze" of the north and won out over the preceding regimes, to establish the present GUNT. We still recall the days when Hissein Habre who was sent by Abba Siddick to negotiate with the rebels of the north, headed by Goukouni, completed his mission by rallying these "brothers of the north." Shortly thereafter, he took as hostages European technical assistants, including ethnologist Mme Claustre who was his prisoner for a long time.

Mme Françoise Claustre owes her freedom to Goukouni Oueddei alone. That is to say, Hissein Habre's entire political career is filled with turnarounds and betrayals, including the time when he successively held the positions of prime minister and minister of defense. The least that can be said about this matter is that it is almost impossible to cooperate with such an individual, even

though he may continue to demonstrate effectiveness on the battlefield. What is more, such successes, however invaluable they may be from the mob psychology and antiadversary standpoints, cannot be guaranteed over the long-term for the simple reason that their perpetrator has an incoherent, visceral policy. The political analysis on the basis of which the OAU decided to support GUNT is pertinent and apart from this subsequent choice there is probably no alternative to peace, stability and the unification of Chad which is still weak and drained.

Contrary to What the Ill-Intentioned Are Peddling, There Is No Doubt About the Neighbors of Chad Wanting Peace

In the past few days, we have read in certain newspapers that some south Saharan states which are neighbors of Chad fear that the return of peace to Chad will seriously expose them to the temptations of hegemonism. Unique and cynical reasoning bears witness to the secret intentions of those who are trying to create a vacuum around Chad and to undermine possible peace solutions. Such reasoning would also attempt the impossible; i.e., to frighten the peoples of the entire river side region.

The Trip to Khartoum Has Historical Importance

To the extent that FAN had their rear base in Sudan which also facilitated contacts with their supporters, we could with good reason believe that Habre's margin for maneuver was severely curtailed after the Goukouni-Numeyri talk. However, we must expect FAN to try other forms of withdrawal, a little like the FNLA and UNITA, after the late Dr Neto met with President Mobutu Sese Seko, of Zaire. But, if the African peace force does the work demanded and if the desire for peace and national agreement prevails, there is nothing left for FAN to do but lay down their arms and request amnesty. This is something which GUNT is certainly ready to grant them.

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CSO: 4719/509

MINISTER DISCLOSES PROJECTS TO EXPAND INDUSTRIES

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 3 Feb 82 pp 1, 6

[Text]

ASMARA (ENA) — The launching of a number of industrial projects is being expedited to expand industries throughout Ethiopia, Comrade Tesfaye Dinka, Minister of Industry and COPWE Central Committee member said here yesterday.

Comrade Tesfaye made the disclosure, in a statement he gave in connection with the commemoration of the Seventh Anniversary of the Nationalization of Major Means of Production and Distribution.

Comrade Tesfaye pointed out that preparation is underway to rid the task of production from wastefulness and corrupt practices and introduce a system of control and management with a view to create conducive condition for raising production. In this connection, a special meeting will be held soon, to chart out ways and means for the implementation of these measures, Comrade Tesfaye said.

On industrial progress in Eritrea region, Comrade Tesfaye recalled that industry in Ethiopia saw its beginning and development in Eritrea region and although exploitation had its negative effect, the situation has enabled the

workers of that region, attain a higher level of creative work, technical knowledge and productivity. He pointed out however, that the atrocities and injustices committed by anti-people bandits had deprived the broad masses of the region from benefiting from the gain of the Revolution.

Comrade Tesfaye pointed out that the factories whose activities were disrupted by the anti-people bandits are now contributing their due share to the country's economy campaign.

Comrade Tesfaye especially stated that the industrial sector of the economy has a considerable role to play in the task of the regional reconstruction through the Red Star Multi-Faceted Revolutionary Campaign in Eritrea region.

Meanwhile, in a statement issued in connection with the Seventh Anniversary of the Proclamation nationalizing the Means of Production and Distribution the Ministry of Industry announced yesterday that industrial production increased by five-hundred-forty-eight million Birr or 73 per cent during the last six years and that

goods valued at 1,301 million Birr rolled off the factory lines during fiscal year 1980-1981.

The statement credited, the achievement to the hard work and discipline of workers, the employment of industrial machinery which were idle during the pre-revolution period, and repair and proper use of factory equipment.

The work-force of the 143 factories under the Ministry totalled 81,000 during 1980-1981.

Significant Measures

A statement issued by the Ministry also said that major efforts have been made to boost the production capacity of some factories and significant measures taken to make available essential raw materials, industrial machinery and spare parts.

The Ministry pointed out, however, that although the 143 enterprises under it have registered production growth during the last six years, it is still not possible to satisfy the country's demand for industrial products. The Ministry said, existing factories will have to be modernized and expanded and new ones installed in order to meet the growing demand of the public for basic industrial goods.

The statement said, goods valued at 187 million Birr were produced at factories in Eritrea region, during 1980-1981, representing an increase of 69 million or 58 per cent over that of 1975-1976.

The Ministry stated that since its establishment by Government Proclamation in September 1976, 33 existing factories were expanded at a cost of 115 million Birr while a 129-million Birr modernization work

is underway at the Dire Dawa Textile Mill and the Metehara Sugar Factory.

It is noted that the expansion programme gave priority to factories engaged in the production of basic consumer goods like food, textiles and leather and shoes. The Adei Ababa Textile Mill, on the expansion of which 35.3 million was invested, now produces 2.5 million kgs of yarn and woven fabrics and employs 600 workers.

The Ministry said that the Glass and Bottle Factory in Addis Ababa will have an annual production capacity of 10,000,000 each of glass and bottle. The 9.5 million Birr Factory has undergone considerable expansion and modernization to meet the growing demand of the two products.

The flour mill at Debre Zeit is to be expanded at a capital of 6.1 million Birr and its annual output is to increase by 300,000 quintals of flour when fully operational.

According to the Ministry's statement, the Fafa Food Processing Centre was recently modernized at a cost of 4.5 million Birr. The Centre produces nutritious food which are sold at fixed prices for children and expectant and lactating mothers.

Another important project in the industrial sector is the expansion of the Metehara Sugar Factory to raise to 5,000 tons the Firm's present daily grinding capacity of 3,000 tons of cane. The amount needed for the project amounts to 94.3 million Birr of which 61 million is to be covered by the Factory itself and the balance to be obtained in loan from the Agro-

Industrial Development Bank and foreign sources. The Metchara Sugar Factory is expected to produce 120,000 tons of sugar and 41,000 tons of molasses per year when the expanded project is fully operational. The present annual production capacity is 45,000 tons of sugar and 28,000 of molasses. There will also be job opportunities for 3,050 new workers with the expansion of the Factory.

According to the Ministry, the Dire Dawa Textile Factory has meanwhile, earmarked 34.2 million Birr to replace obsolete machinery and construct new buildings to install new equipment. When the project is completed after two years, the annual output will increase by 2,500 tons of arm and woven fabric while 250 additional workers will be employed.

A total of 6.3 million Birr was earmarked towards the expansion of the Ethio-Japan Nylon Textile Factory, the Akaki Textile Factory and the Debre Berhan Blanket Factory which are now producing 910,000 square metres of textile, 762,000 kgs of thread and yarn and 100,000 pieces of blankets per year.

Seven shoe and leather tanning factories were also overhauled at a cost of 3.9 million Birr to annually produce an additional 1,000,000 pairs of shoes and 1,290,000 leather pieces. The Ethiopian Fiber Factory, the Asmara Sack Factory and other related concerns were also expanded in order to increase output.

The annual production capacity of the beverage industries has reached

3.8 million cases of soft drinks, 300,000 hectolitres of beer, 2.4 million bottles of wine, 19,000 hectolitres of spirits and 1,700 tons of malt, according to the Ministry of Industry.

Similarly, the Ethiopian Metal works Factory, the Kolfe Furniture Project and the "Tewahdo" Handicraft Works Factory were improved at a cost of 2,000,000 Birr.

The statement by the Ministry of Industry also reported that seven factory projects are either in the process of implementation or are in the final stages of preparation. The total outlay involved is 780 million Birr of which 45 million has already been invested.

The statement pointed out that the Bahr Dar Edible Oil Factory with a total capacity of 14,400 tons per year and another factory with a total annual capacity of 40,000 tons will be built. Work on the two projects will involve capital expenditure of 32 million Birr and will have a 200-man work-force when operational.

The Kombolcha Textile Mill under construction in Wollo region will have an annual production capacity of 20 million metres of fabric and deploy 45,000 spindles. The 180 million Birr factory will employ 3,400 workers when completed in about three years, according to the Ministry of Industry.

The 200 million Birr Muger Cement Factory under construction in Menagesha province of Shoa region will produce 300,000 tons annually and employ 400 permanent workers.

The Ministry also mentioned the 43.9 million Birr brewery and 300 million Birr Cement Factory to be

built in Harar and Dire Dawa respectively. The former will produce 200,000 hectolitres or 60 million bottles annually and have a work-force of 600 when completed in 1985. The Dire Dawa Factory will produce 600,000 tons of cement when fully operational.

Plans have meanwhile been finalized for the launching of yet another state enterprise in the town of Assela, Arsi region, at a cost of 28.9 million Birr.

CSO: 4700/785

COPWE, CUBAN CP TO STRENGTHEN TIES

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Feb 82 pp 1, 10

[Text]

ADDIS ABABA (ENA) — Agreement was reached here on Sunday to strengthen relations and collaboration between the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Working People of Ethiopia (COPWE) and the Communist party of Cuba.

The document ratifying the accord was signed at COPWE Headquarters Sunday morning by Comrade Berhanu Bayih, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member, and Comrade Jorge Risquet Valdes, Politbureau member of the Communist Party of Cuba.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Comrade Shewan Dagn Belete, COPWE Central Committee member and Second Deputy Head of COPWE's Organizational Affairs, Comrade Girma Neway, COPWE Central Committee member and Head of the Propaganda and Agitation Section of COPWE's Ideological Department, Comrade Tesfaye Taddesse, COPWE Central Committee member and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Serto Ader*, as well as members of the Cuban delega-

tion accompanying Comrade Jorge Risquet Valdes and the Cuban Ambassador to Socialist Ethiopia, Comrade Buenaventural Reyes Acosta.

The Cuban delegation later left for home after concluding what was described as a highly successful working visit to Socialist Ethiopia. A spokesman of the delegation told ENA before departure that during talks with Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam and Comrade Berhanu Bayih issues on the further strengthening of relations between COPWE and the Communist Party of Cuba as well as the stand of the two fraternal countries with regard to imperialist manoeuvres to destabilize peace in the Horn of Africa and the Caribbean were raised and discussed in depth. The spokesman said the agreement signed between COPWE and the Communist Party of Cuba eloquently expresses the revolutionary solidarity between the two organs.

The high-level Cuban Party delegation was seen off at Bole International

Airport by Comrade Berhanu Bayih, Comrade Teka Tulu, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Girma Yilma, Minister of Information and National Guidance and COPWE Central Committee member, Comrade Goshu Wolde, Minister of Education and COPWE Central Committee member, COPWE Central Committee members, government officials and Comrade Ambassador Buenaventura Reyes Acosta.

CSO: 4700/785

MEETING ADOPTS SEVEN-POINT POLITICAL MANIFESTO

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 2 Feb 82 pp 1, 5-6, 10

[Text]

ASMARA (ENA) — The historic high-level meeting on the Red Star Revolutionary Development Campaign in Eritrea Region ended here Sunday with the unanimous adoption of a seven-point political manifesto.

Drafted by a committee set up at Asmara Palace on Saturday, the document endorsed with one voice the policy statement delivered by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam when opening the purely previous Monday. The manifesto expressed the readiness and determination of the Ethiopian broad masses to implement the Red Star Reconstruction Programme and mobilize forces in the total and final obliteration of remaining secessionist pockets. Supporters and sympathisers of the separatist movement, it was noted further should likewise be ferreted out and brought to account.

The manifesto called on Ethiopian nationals living abroad as refugees on account of the secessionist problem to take advantage of government amnesty to return and resume normal life. The peasant masses in the region

were urged to organized themselves into associations.

The political manifesto vigorously denounced imperialist and reactionary involvement in the secessionist movement and warned hostile forces to stop forthwith support for the traitorous bandit gangs. It also called on progressive and democratic forces to continue to be on Ethiopia's side in its struggle against powers which are playing dirty geo-political games in the region.

The conference hall reverberated in stunning applause as Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam reiterated the unequivocal resolve and determination of the Ethiopian broad masses to close the tragic chapter in the history of Eritrea Region during the last two decades and to purge the area of separatist sentiment in all its forms and manifestations.

Following is the full text of the "Asmara Manifesto" by participants of the Red Star multi-purpose revolutionary development campaign.

The Asmara Manifesto

We the participants of the Red Star multi-faceted Revolutionary Campaign, gathering in this beautiful and

historic capital city of Eritrea Region, Asmara, in a nation-wide historic conference, from 25th to 31st January, 1982, and representing:

- "The people of Haraghe Region
- "The people of Sidamo Region
- "The people of Shoa Region
- "The people of Bale Region
- "The people of Tigray Region
- "The people of Arsi Region
- "The people of the City of Addis Ababa

- "The people of Ilubabor Region
- "The people of Kaffa Region
- "The people of Wollega Region
- "The people of Gamo Goffa Region
- "The people of Gojjam Region
- "The people of Gondar Region
- "The All Ethiopia Trade Union
- "The All Ethiopia Peasants' Association.

- "The Revolutionary Ethiopia Youth Association
- "The Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association
- "The Urban Dwellers' Associations
- "The Ethiopian Teachers' Association

- "The Ethiopian Resistance Fighters' Association
- "The Federation of Ethiopian Health Professionals
- "Association of Ethiopian Artists
- "The Ethiopian Writers' Association

- "The Ethiopian Journalists' Association
- "The Ethiopian Musicians' Association

- "The Ethiopian Artistes' Association
- "The Ethiopian Veterinary Doctors Association

- "The Revolutionary Ethiopia Revolutionary Army
- "The Eritrea Regional AETU

- "The Eritrea Regional AEPA
- "The Eritrea Regional REYA
- "The Eritrea Regional REWA
- "The Eritrea Regional UDAs
- "The Eritrea Regional Resistance Fighters' Association
- "The Eritrea Regional Teachers' Association
- "The followers of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Eritrea Region

- "The followers of the Islamic faith in Eritrea Region

- "The followers of the Catholic Church in Eritrea Region

- "The Second Revolutionary Liberation Army

- "The mass organizations of the people of Hamassien Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Akaleguzai Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Seraye Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Keren Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Abarka Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Gash-Setit Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Sahel Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Red Sea Province in Eritrea Region

- "The mass organizations of the people of Asseb Province in Eritrea Region

"The various nationalities in Eritrea Region, which are:

- Tigrai-Tigre
- Benamir
- Kunama
- Afar
- Bilen
- Beja
- Naran (Baria)
- Sabo
- Tigregna

"The People's Militia of Eritrea Region:

"Having attentively considered the historic policy statement Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army, addressed to the entire working people of Ethiopia on January 25, 1982,

"Having also carefully listened to the speeches delivered by each of the participants of the Red Star Multi-Faceted Revolutionary Campaign representing the working people of Ethiopia,

"Having heard and considered the report and explanations given on the stand and objective of the Red Star Multi-Faceted Revolutionary Campaign by the Secretary-General of the Campaign,

"Having seen on the spot and broadly discussed the immense damage wrought by the secessionist bandits on the life and property of the oppressed people, the crime and political banditry they perpetrated on the unity and independence of the country,

"Recalling the injustices and crimes colonialists committed against the history of our independence and unity, particularly against the history

of the Northern region which is the foundation of our unity,

"Affirming that the Revolutionary Government had made unreserved effort of goodwill and patience to solve peacefully the Eritrean problem and in this regard having considered in detail the various measures the Government had taken at various times,

"We have made the following assessment after having considered in general that since the eruption of our great February Revolution, the broad Ethiopian people at various times and fora not only condemned the anti-people and anti-unity activities of the secessionist bandits but also passed resolutions calling for concrete measure to be taken against them:

The History of Our Independence and Unity

Ethiopia, our beloved Motherland, is the home of numerous nationalities and communities with proud heritages of civilization and rich cultures on the most part. Followers of various religions, proud and gallant people live in her. It has an uninterrupted history of independence and unity dating back for millenia, and geographically holds a key, strategic position in the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa. It is a country endowed with rich natural resources and ideal climate.

At various times, expansionists, colonialists and imperialists not only attempted to plunder its natural resources but also enemies from near and far who sought to control the Red Sea, a littoral shortcut connecting Europe with Africa and the Far East, had launched repeated crimes and wars of invasion against Ethiopia.

Yet, it is a country that had waged separate and common struggle against enemy forces and repulsed them victoriously through the sacrifices of its heroic children and is renowned in Africa for the strong resistance it had mounted against colonialism, racism, and fascism for hundreds of years.

Because of the civil war that prevailed in Ethiopia at the end of the 16th century and the beginning of the 17th century, Ottoman Turks invaded us by violating our territorial integrity while the Portuguese interfered in our internal affairs. Having occupied Massawa, Hargigo, the Turks tried to move inland and establish a fort at Debarwa. The Portuguese too tried for reinforcement, but the aims of the two foreigner nations were thwarted by the Ethiopian broad masses.

In 1578 the Ethiopian force decisively engaged with the Turks at Adi Daero and defeated them and what was left of the enemy force was chased and annihilated at its entrenchment at the fort in Debarwa.

Seeking revenge 20 years later the Turkish force was ignominiously defeated in 1598 at the big battle in Massawa and Hargio. This historic victory by the Ethiopian force heralded the departure of the Turks from Egypt and the territories they occupied elsewhere in north Africa.

It was a historical coincidence that in 19th century, Egypt no longer under the occupation of the Turks and with the help and leadership of British and American mercenaries, aspired for the control of the sources of the Nile.

The Ports, Trade Activities and Territories Along the Red Sea

Although these coincidences enabled Egypt to set foot in our part of the Red Sea and occupy for the time being some parts of Northern Ethiopia, ceaseless armed struggle had been waged to halt the enemy's advance and annihilate it. Finally in 1875 and 1876 the enemy was dealt a decisive blow at Gundet and Gurao by the Ethiopian force under the leadership of Emperor Yohannes and the command of the great and renowned Ras Alula Aba Nega, thus nipping in the bud the expansionist designs Egypt had, like Turkey, against Ethiopia.

The first half of the 19th century, being an era when the imperialist forces of the time who had reached the highest stage of capitalism, were all set for the scramble of Africa, the Middle East and the rest of the world Italian and French imperialism and specially British imperialism exerted utmost effort to partition Ethiopia by employing various means and to put the country under control.

The "Treaty of Hout" signed between the British and Atoe Yohannes to permit the Egyptian army safe exist through Massawa and to save the Egyptian army from annihilation by the besieging Dervishes, on one hand testifies that Massawa is part and parcel of Ethiopia and on the other hand that it has provided the Egyptian army with the opportunity to cross Ethiopia to safety.

But the British once their objective was fulfilled, annulled the Treaty and handed over Massawa to Italy, and gave Italy the opportunity to

extend its tentacles of colonial rule over Ethiopia from the sea coast to the hinterland. The oppressed people of Ethiopia had waged battles in various areas in which they had paid immense sacrifices to limit the expansion of Italian colonial rule. In 1885, the army of the heroic Ras Alula, registered an unforgettable chapter of victory by liquidating the Italian army at Dogali.

Since Italy's objective was to put the whole of Ethiopia under its colonial rule, in defiance of the shameful defeat it had suffered at Dogali, it became more organized, more armed and more strengthened. It advanced its forces to the hinterland and was able to extend its control to the Mereb River.

To stop the advance of Italy which was aimed at extending its control beyond the Mereb River, the heroic broad masses of Ethiopia, who are ever ready to die for their freedom and unity and always concerned about the rights and committed to their history, dealt the Italian army a humiliating blow in 1896 in Adowa. The site which since then become known throughout the world and become a shining pride in the history of the struggle of the black African masses. The heroic Ethiopian army led by Atefe Menelik, by crushing the Italian army, left behind it an eternally memorable proud history for the new revolutionary generation.

Fascist Italy, never to learn from its defeat in Adowa and to realize its long standing dreams, carried out aggression for five years in other parts of Ethiopia by strengthening itself with modern weaponry, after forty years of preparations.

Although fascist Italy has through the use of toxic gas which is prohibited by international law, ruthlessly and

indiscriminately decimated, males, females, children and the old alike, the broad masses of Ethiopia have in the anti-fascist struggle paid immense sacrifices and affirmed their historical unity.

At this juncture, although it's needless to mention the names of those gallant resistance fighters, who with burning sense of nationalism and with glowing sense of commitment demonstrated heroic feats in various fronts, we recall with pride and admiration the heroic sons of this region like Zerai Deress, Abreha Debotch, Moges Asgedom and others.

In our revolutionary history, likewise, at a time when the broad masses of Ethiopia are engaged in a radical class struggle to bring about justice, equality, democracy and socialism by shattering the oppressive feudal rule, the chauvinistic ruling class of Somalia, unleashed against us a war of aggression and expansion, by serving as a tool of imperialism and forces of reaction. In this decisive moment, under the committed leadership of Comrade Chairman Mengistu, the broad masses of Ethiopia, have by rallying themselves under the motto "Revolutionary Motherland or Death" and "Better a Day's Freedom Than Eternal Slavery" and by renewing the heroic feats of their forebears with socialist patriotism, defeated the enemy and safeguarded their freedom, unity and Revolution through the sacrifice of their blood and bones.

The History of the Northern Region, the Basis of Its Unity and Atrocities Committed by Colonialists

When the heroic history of the broad masses of Ethiopia was written by the blood of our forebears and the new revolutionary generation, the people of North Ethiopia together with the rest

of their Ethiopian sisters and brothers paid due sacrifices for their unity, freedom and integrity and together with them shared the joy of the victories attained.

Italian and British colonialists have for about 60 years deprived them of their human rights, killed, oppressed and exploited them and exposed them to hunger and deprivation, moreover, although there was no means and machination they did not employ to make them forget and deny the fact that they were Ethiopians and to divide and rule them, the oppressed people of the region have in order to safeguard the freedom of their country and their dignity fought head on and shocked the enemy.

Although it is the role of history to dwell in detail on the strong anti-colonialist and anti-fascist armed struggle waged in this region, suffice it to mention in this Manifesto, that there was no time whatsoever, when Italian and British colonialism had enjoyed peace in the region and that the alien forces eventually were treated to the bitter cup of defeat and humiliation.

In the struggle waged to rid Ethiopia from Italian colonialism the broad masses of Eritrea region, intensified their armed struggle and formed a unionist association under the slogan "Ethiopia or Death," fought Italian colonialism gallantly and arrested the subtle machinations of the British.

Although owing to conflicts of interest that existed at the time between the imperialists, the wish of the people of Eritrea was not fulfilled totally and the road to unity was suspended at the federation level. A few years later through a popularly elected assembly, the people of Eritrea region fully realized their cherished wish for union thereby affirming the historical unity with the Motherland, and once and

for all destroying the vestiges of colonialism.

For those who know the history of Ethiopia, the unanimous decision for unity can in no way surprise them. If we take a moment's glance at the objective history of Ethiopia, which could testify to its unity, there is no gainsaying that at least as far back as 500 B.C. the Northern region has been the cradle of civilization for the whole of Ethiopia. It is clear to anybody that it was during the Axumite civilization that flourished in Northern Ethiopia, that the Ethiopian letters, was structured in the manner in which they now exist and through the language of Ge'ez, have made immense contribution to the development of education, literature and culture and generally to the progress and expansion of civilization.

Beginning in 1885 when Italian colonialism infiltrated our Northern region and controlled it partly and up until 1890 when the colonialists gave that part of the country the name "Eritrea", it is a historical fact that the region used to be known as "the coastal territory" and its administrator "Bahr Negash."

This being the history in brief, European colonialists, Italian colonialists in particular, until the end of the 19th century when they seized parts of the coastal area of Ethiopia and imposed their colonial rule over this region, there was no time at all when Eritrea was separated from Ethiopia and when Ethiopia has lived without Eritrea.

The atrocities committed by Italian colonial rule being what we have mentioned briefly above, those which are particularly unforgettable were the injustices it perpetrated by evicting the oppressed peoples of the region from

their fertile land and the handing over of the land to Italian settlers, its practice of tribal segregation and the deprivation of basic education and devious machinations it used along religious, nationality and locality lines thereby fomenting hatred and antagonism among the people in order to create conducive condition for the effective subjugation of the people.

By so doing, the Italian colonialists had passed over a problem inimical to the unity of Ethiopia, which is clear testimony to the objective condition prevailing today.

When Great Britain was mandated to administer Italian holdings in East Africa, following the defeat of Italian fascism during the Second World War, though its mandate was provisional, Great Britain used various subtle methods in order to realize its previous expansion designs in the Sudan and to continue its occupation there.

Its attempts to make Ethiopia its appendage by treaties having failed, Great Britain, employed subtle means of divide and rule to block the unity of our people in Eritrea region with Ethiopia — moreover it continued to endorse the practice of the segregationist policy of fascist Italy.

As mentioned above, the people of Eritrea region, because of their deep feeling of being Ethiopian and because they were determined and committed to the objective of unity, any type of machination could not block them. To the contrary, in order to

enable themselves to carry out their struggle in coordinated manner, and in line with the motto "Ethiopia or Death" when in 1941 they founded a unionist association and continued to intensify their struggle for unity, Great Britain, being aware that the association would serve as a hurdle for its expansionist policy organized two puppet organizations called "Liberal Progressives" and "Rahita El Islamiya" to counter the objective of unity and advance its own interests, and helped to foment problem by collaborating with other organized anti-unity associations.

On the other hand, although unity was the only objective for which the unionist association which truly reflected the wishes and aspirations of the broad masses of the region, the United Nations Organization of the time, due to conflicts of interests between imperialists, set up a federal administration in defiance of the popular request for unity.

Because the federal system was, to begin with, not based on the interest of the people, the broad masses of Eritrea who were struggling for unity, democratically discussed federation through members of its popularly elected assembly and cancelled it once and for all with a vote of an overwhelming majority. The revolutionary generation recall this unswerving decision of the broad masses of Eritrea region with great admiration and pride.

The Creation of Secessionist Bandits, and the Crime They Perpetrated on the Masses of People and Their Political Blackmail

The repeated aggressions and wars made against our country in our past history is basically due to Ethiopia's rich natural resources and its strategical location, which is also manifested in the creation and growth of the secessionist bandits.

This fact is easily understood when we examine the complicated problems of Eritrea region in the last 20 years after the creation of secessionist bandit group called "Jebha". The so-called founders of "Jebha" did not have any political goals, and this manifested in their brigandage and banditry they still undertake. These groups of bandits were organized for their criminal aims of secessionism and armed for their murderous mission by external forces who are against the unity and strength of Ethiopia. This is the bitter truth of history which cannot be denied.

"Jebha" was founded in Cairo by expansionist external forces who had been dreaming for centuries to dismember Ethiopia. This happened at a time when the genuine wishes of the masses of Eritrea region for which they have made bitter struggle was fulfilled by reunification with the Motherland. It had also been an opportune time for anti-Ethiopia external forces which founded "Jebha" and the British manipulation to annex western Eritrea and designate it as part of Sudan had enabled to organise feudal remnants and religious fanatics.

"Jebha", which is a puppet of external forces who wish to weaken and dismember Ethiopia, has undertaken

its heinous mission by using different ideologies as a cover-up. Because of the then prevailing oppressive feudal system in Ethiopia, "Jebha" was regarded as an anti-feudal organisation.

As a result some progressive individuals from Eritrea region and other parts of the country had been misguided by considering "Jebha" as a forum of struggle against the oppressive feudal order and some had joined it.

Although "Jebha" had succeeded for sometimes in such covert manoeuvre, its religious fanaticism and reactionary stand was clearly reflected in its indiscriminate murder of christians, progressive individuals and nationalities of the highland areas. There are among us today those who suffered from and had witnessed the inhuman killings of the secessionist bandits, whose anti-people stand and genocide could never be forgotten in our history.

The disintegration of "Jebha" because of contradictions within the group and the eventual creation of the so-called "Shabia" faction organised by the C.I.A. clearly indicates that this group is also a puppet of external forces.

The eruption of the Ethiopian People's Revolution has exposed the terroristic and pseudo-revolutionary stand of these two groups of bandits. The Ethiopian Revolution has exposed the propaganda and political blackmail of the secessionist bandits, including that about the question of nationalities.

The question of nationalities vis-a-vis the objective condition of our country requires serious considerations. As such we the representatives of the people would take this oppor-

tunity to explain briefly how we view the question of nationalities.

When we look at the question of nationalities from historical perspectives, the change in the development of society is based on the economic development of a given country. Within this premise, Ethiopia's developmental stage makes it a country of several nationalities rather than a nation. Ethiopian society is composed of not only different nationalities in various stages of development but also minority groups of clans and tribes.

As is the case in any society of different nationalities where the means of productions are privately owned, the working people of Ethiopia have suffered not only from economic exploitation but also oppression of nationalities by the feudal regime.

The basis for this oppression was the private ownership of land, on which the livelihood of the masses of people is dependent by a few aristocrats and feudals. As such the question of nationalities could not be considered in isolation. It is directly connected with the people's freedom from feudal exploitation and the prevalence of democracy.

The objective condition of Ethiopia dictates that the freedom of nationalities could be acquired by the abolition of the feudal system and particularly by changes in the ownership of land on which oppression is based. The oppression of nationalities could be overcome with the abolition of private ownership and exploiting classes, which is the basis for the genuine freedom for the masses of the people.

The Ethiopian Revolution has laid a concrete foundation to free tenant farmers from all sorts of exploitation and oppression by nationalising all rural land. By nationalising industries, financial and commercial organizations, the Ethiopian Revolution had freed the working class from bourgeois and imperialist exploitation.

The Ethiopian Revolution has laid a concrete foundation for the political supremacy and people's democracy by enlightening, organizing and arming the working class. Moreover, concrete steps are being taken to ensure the equalities and political freedom of nationalities in accordance with the Ethiopian National Democratic Revolution Programme.

The Ethiopian National Democratic Revolution Programme indicated that relationships among Ethiopian nationalities would be based on equality, cooperation, and brotherhood. The programme also specified that the language and culture of all nationalities would be equally promoted and special considerations would be given to up-lift the economic and social development of the most oppressed and long-forgotten minority groups.

Moreover, the Programme confirms that for the acquisition of full democracy and to ensure the equality of nationalities, any nationality in Ethiopia has the right to determine its own destiny.

The right of nationalities to determine their own destinies means all nationalities in a given country have equal right to lead their destiny. This ensures the right of nationalities to equally vote for their common destiny. As such the right of a nationality to determine its own destiny includes the right to secede.

The recognition of the right of nationalities to secede does not mean that any nationality can secede at any time. The oppression of nationalities has emerged at a certain historical moment and it could be overcome with the phasing away of social and economic oppressions which are the root causes of it. As such, the question of the right of nationalities to secede should be seen and solved like all social questions of the peoples within the historical and objective condition of the time. As situations are changing the right of nationalities to secede could not be seen in isolation and there is not a permanent formula for it. The abolition of oppression of nationalities being part of the revolutionary process to change the exploitative system, the question of secession could be determined vis-a-vis the nature of the existing system and the general direction of social development. Likewise, the question of the right of nationalities to secede should be seen from the benefit of the people particularly from the benefit of the working class who has the historical mission of abolishing all forms of exploitation and oppression and with the developmental stage of the revolution.

In a society divided into classes, the basic contradiction being between classes, the oppression of nationalities could be solved with the abolition of class contradiction. Communists therefore consider the question of the right of nationalities to secede from the point of view of whether it promotes or retards class struggle.

If the question of secession is raised at a time when the working class is struggling to abolish all forms of exploitation and oppression and are striving to establish a socialist system,

such question is undoubtedly against the interest of the people. At this stage of social development the abolition of private ownership and the exploiting class — which are root causes for the oppression of nationalities — which leads to a classless communist society — the question of secession is totally unacceptable.

The goal of socialism is not only to unify people divided into small governments and create harmonious relationships between nationalities, but also to lay down the foundation of their economic and social unification. In societies engaged in building socialist, the right of nationalities to determine their destiny should be viewed from this Communist principle.

As the Great Lenin said in connection with the question of the right of nationalities to secede at a time when a society is in this stage of development.

"This question (meaning self-determination) is not one of secession, the act of splitting into pieces in order to set up petty governments. The question expressed unbridled struggle against all forms of national oppression."

Accordingly, for a society in the throes of socialist construction, self-determination means effective liberation from the oppression of an exploitative system and to ensure against a resurgence of oppression through freedom of domestic political administration. It does not suppose breaking of domestic political administration. It does not suppose breaking apart in order to set up for themselves small governments.

The Ethiopian Revolution, by doing away with private property, which

forms the bases of all forms of oppression, has taken courageously all the necessary measures to guarantee an end to oppression of Ethiopian nationalities and to the establishment of lasting equality. The working people of Ethiopia have embarked upon the historic mission of socialist construction, spurred by successive past victories, with the view to eradicate the vestiges of the exploitation of man by man.

Although we have broken the backbone of the feudal system and laid down the basis to extricate nationalities from all types of oppression and exploitation, we should realize that the eventual all round fulfilment of this objective is intertwined with the improvement of the material life condition of the society.

The political measures we have taken to ensure the equality of minority nationalities who have born the brunt of age-old oppression, is not perhaps enough by themselves. What demands more sacrifice and the decisive act bearing on the progress of their cultural life and the cornerstone of their equality is the transformation and development of their economy. In conformity with our political convictions to bring about the cultural development of all nationalities on the basis of equality, requires a strong material basis.

In the light of the objective conditions of our country, the practical realization of the equality of nationalities can only be regarded within the context of the on-going effort to rid ourselves of the consequences of backwardness and to build a socialist society.

Unity founded on a spirit of equality, brotherhood and mutual assist-

ance among nationalities can only exist under socialism. As oppression is the hallmark of the nature of the exploitative system, socialism can hardly be realized without the ensurance of unmitigated equality among nationalities.

As we mentioned above, since we have taken the initial steps for the realization of the objective of the equality of nationalities, the question arises, who are the purveyors of secession? Whom do they represent?

Today, secession is in contradistinction with the aspirations of all the working nationalities of Ethiopia. The desire of all the working nationalities of Ethiopia is to partake in the on-going chapter of socialist construction to bring about creation of a genuine system where freedom among men, equality and justice prevail. Falling out of line of this great and profound revolutionary process means without question falling in the exploitative network of imperialism.

We take lesson from history, and, among the various machinations of imperialism to stem and abort the revolutionary transformation of progressive states, is one intended to whip up minor contradictions and encourage internal reactionary forces with the view to prepare propitious conditions for intervention. Today, when because of the successive economic dislocation and political bankruptcy of imperialism its aggressive and predatory nature has come into the force there is no question that it would persist on this reactionary path.

In its reckless adventure exposing the world to the danger of a holocaust, Ethiopia by virtue of its strategic location commanding the passage of oil routes on the Red Sea and by its proximity to the Persian Gulf has become

the principal object of imperialist designs. The proliferation of imperialist bases in our vicinity and the recent establishment of rapid interventionist forces cannot fail to heighten our alarm.

Considering the objective conditions of our surroundings, it is quite evident that imperialism is manoeuvring to bring under its control this strategic area through the employment of secessionist elements, who are instruments of its reactionary goals.

The choice for the working people of Ethiopia therefore is either to defend their hard-fought freedom and independence or to be divided and weakened, thus falling prey to imperialist oppression and servitude. There can be no third alternative. As the Ethiopian people safeguarded their unity and honour during the last seven years of bitter struggle and prideful victory by shedding their blood and bones, likewise they would struggle today and tomorrow in unison and with courage towards the bright future.

Among the bankrupt propaganda clichés planted by secessionists to cover up their poisonous plan is the one which tends to present the so-called Eritrea question as a colonial issue.

Ethiopia has an age-old history of unity and freedom which it has successfully defended through the years against encroachments by invaders from the north mainly in Eritrea, who waged a heroic struggle in unison. Since this historical truism argues against this preposterous assumption of the colonialist and the colonized, it is perhaps a historic opportunity to lay bare this position which is far removed from historical objectivity and reality.

Not only has Eritrea been part of Ethiopia, but also its contribution to Ethiopia's ancient history has been shown earlier.

One of the main characteristic features of this ancient Ethiopian history has been the rise of classes in society, particularly, in the northern part of the country which became the hub of feudalism, spreading its tentacles from there.

The historical fact is that the northern part of Ethiopia has contributed its share to the rise and spread of classes and the consolidation of feudal oppression and exploitation — and that Ethiopia has not seized "Eritrea" as a colony as the secessionist bandits disinform.

And after the Eritrean region by an accident of history fell victim to colonialism, the struggle waged for freedom and territorial integrity had the ultimate goal of uprooting colonialism from the land of Ethiopia and the conclusion of this struggle with the victory of the Ethiopian people added new vigor to the already existing unity and no other meaning can be accorded to it.

Basically, colonialism emerges during the era of imperialism when capitalism begins to exploit other peoples covertly and openly in search of industrial products and commodity markets outside its own national boundary.

Since it is a characteristic of exploitation to be observed when capitalism attains the highest stage of development, to say that Eritrea was occupied by colonialism in search of expanding industrial market at a time when Ethiopia was in a very backward feudal order is unscientific and to try to present this to justify the question of secessionism is to ridicule history.

Measures Taken at the Various Times by the Revolutionary Government to Solve the Eritrean Problem Peacefully

The secessionist bandits had forced the broad masses of Eritrea region to abandon their property and flee by looting, agonising, killing, destroying and in general through their destructive activities trade in the blood of the masses and denying their human rights.

Although the Revolutionary Government is fully aware of the activities of the secessionist bandits, it has spared no efforts to solve the problem peacefully on the basis of its firm belief and objective of the peace and progress of the broad masses. We will mention some of the measures taken by the Revolutionary Government in this regard:

1. In order to create conducive conditions for the bandits to align themselves with the Revolution internally and open a peace forum, it had instructed security forces not to take measures, unless in self-defence, and confined them to their camp.

2. Despite the stepped up reactionary activities of the secessionists, the Government handled the situation patiently enabling a high-level meeting to be convened in Asmara in December 1974, with the participation of 318 persons representing the inhabitants of each province and district in Eritrea region as well as from the Government side, members of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and high-ranking government officials. A committee was set up at this meeting to establish contact with the secessionists for the practical implementation of the peace call that the revolutionary government would

grant full amnesty to the secessionist rebuild the economy to extricate the people of the region from socio-economic problems in the shortest time possible and build a socialist society wherein justice, equality, freedom and democracy prevail in accordance with the aim of the Revolution.

3. It also established a special commission on the problem of Eritrea region for the practical implementation of the Nine-Point Policy Declaration on Eritrea based on the Programme of the National Democratic Revolution for further implementing the peace call.

4. Although the problem in Eritrea region is an internal affair, the revolutionary government has taken the pains to dispatch a delegation to explain the issue to Arab countries that have organized and financed the bandits to dismember and weaken the country with the pretext that Eritrea is an Arab and invoking religious excuses. The delegation toured at different times, the Sudan, Egypt, Libya, Algeria, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and North South Yemens where briefings were given on the Ethiopian National Democratic Revolution Programme, the cause of the Eritrean problem and the nine-point policy the revolutionary government has issued as a solution and the various other measures taken to solve the problem peacefully.

5. Great effort were exerted to make direct contact with the secessionist bandits and to convince them to cease their subtle and opportunist activities and join the Ethiopian broad masses in the construction of a new system and to assure them that the Motherland would forgive them for all the atrocities they have committed.

What was the reply of the bandits to all the government initiatives?

The bandits have not only turned down the peace call arrogantly, but availed themselves of the directives on the immobilization of the army back to the barracks to penetrate into Asmara and launch a major attack in an attempt to besiege the city in February 1975. In this they have savagely massacred the broad masses and caused major damage to public property and economy.

— Rejecting the peaceful initiative, the bandits have instead intensified their brigandage killing and harassing the inhabitants of the region, demolishing economic infrastructures and preparing hideouts in strategic areas in preparation of a major encounter.

After having concocted a concerted conspiracy with EPRP and EDU in the hinterland and imperialism and the reactionary Somalia ruling class outside the country, the secessionist bandits were enabled to put under their control the major parts of the region at an opportune moment when Somalia started its invasion in the east while EPRP and EDU unleashed terror in the hinterland simultaneously.

This was the reply to the measures the revolutionary government has proposed with all sincerity and patience. Therefore, in accordance with its responsibility to emancipate the broad masses in Eritrea region, the Revolutionary Army has dealt with the bandits with a socialist patriotism. This victory has enabled the Eritrean broad masses to enjoy peace and to engage themselves in a relatively better way in the process of changing their economic life.

However since the secessionist bandits were not completely crushed, they are still engaged in literal banditry kil-

ling people and destroying economic infrastructures so that the broad masses will not carry out their economic ventures peacefully and enjoy fully the benefits of the revolution. The bandits are not only destroying schools, hospitals, roads and bridges, but they have continued unabatedly their mission of rendering useless infrastructures which were maintained with the great effort of the people.

This anti-people, anti-development and anti-peace onslaught by the bandits must stop once and for all. The Ethiopian broad masses have realised not only the bankruptcy and betrayal of these renegades but understood that their conspiracy was meant against the Ethiopian people, their children, their unity and their revolution.

Therefore, we, representatives of the Ethiopian broad masses:

— Recalling the heavy sacrifices contained in the long-standing history of the Motherland, as gallantly paid by the heroic forebears for the cause of our freedom, unity and enity:

— Realizing that most of the invasions expansionists, colonialists and imperialists have attempted against our beloved Motherland were carried out through our Red Sea frontier:

— Remembering with esteem and admiration the heavy sacrifices paid by the entire northern Ethiopian people who, as the first to bear the brunt of the bitter liberation struggle, have shed their blood and sacrificed their lives in defence of our freedom and unity:

— Observing that these heroic and proud oppressed Ethiopian people have endured a protracted era of misery under the feudal order when a handful few enjoyed a luxurious life at the expense of their sweat and were honoured at the expense of their history:

— Being aware of the fact that the Ethiopian broad masses, after conducting a sustained struggle to end exploitation and oppression, have now embarked on the construction of a new system which would decide upon their prospect and enable them to enjoy the fruits of the great February 1974 revolution:

— Realizing with the feeling of pride that the present revolutionary generation has renewed with socialist patriotism, the gallantry of its forbears in defending the freedom, unity and entity of the Revolutionary Motherland during the open invasion of the Mogadisho ruling class in compliance with imperialists and reactionary forces in the region:

— Realizing with disappointment the anti-peace, anti-unity and anti-people betrayal and conspiracy, annihilation and destruction of the imperialist and reactionary lackeys — secessionist bandits — at such a crucial juncture when the Ethiopian broad masses are in the process of building a society wherein justice, equality, democracy and socialism will replace hunger, disease, illiteracy and backwardness in general:

Convinced of the elimination, once and for all, of such anti-society elements is a timely and burning issue:

— Being aware that imperialists, worried by political bankruptcy and economic crisis that challenge them, are attempting to jeopardize world peace and instigate intimidation against and muffle the struggle of countries and forces that stand for peace, democracy, freedom, equality and social development:

— Realizing in particular the implications and danger of the imperialist pressures to muffle and disrupt

the Ethiopian revolution, by arming and co-ordinating secessionist bandits inside the country and by establishing military bases in our surroundings to launch invasions against the country so in order to put the Red Sea under control:

— Realizing the need to bring to the attention of the ally and for alike, our readiness to pay revolutionary sacrifices both in the fight and the economic construction by standing with unflinching resolve on the side of our heroic Revolutionary Army during the Red Star campaign, so that peace would prevail throughout the country, socialism would blossom in the Revolutionary Motherland, justice and democracy would materialize to its national and the sovereignty and respect of the country would be ensured throughout:

— Observing the impact of the historic statement of February 17, 1982 made to the Ethiopian people by our revolutionary leader Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army, assessing contemporary national and international situations at the congress:

— We have issued today the Asmara Manifesto containing our assessment of and decisions on the national, regional and international issues deliberated at the meeting and later reviewed in a revolutionary and patriotic feeling.

1) We unanimously endorse the historic policy statement made by our determined and wise leader, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army, to the entire

Ethiopian people when addressing the Red Star multi-faceted Revolutionary Development Campaign meeting assembled in Asmara on January 17, 1982 regarding the objective reality in Ethiopia in the context of the world situation and in particular the problem in Eritrea Region. We pledge our readiness to implement the directives given by Comrade Chairman Mengistu to rebuild the economic infrastructure destroyed by the secessionist bandits in the Region and to bring genuine freedom to the people and to make every sacrifice, including that of life, demanded of us to spearhead the execution of work strategies which the Revolutionary Government will conceive in future.

2) The anti-freedom, anti-unity, anti-people and anti-peace bandit gangs who have been rejected by the society and who represent no one except the forces of imperialism and reaction should no longer be allowed to continue wreaking destruction and must therefore be reduced to smithereens by the united might of the broad masses.

We moreover pledge to crush those who provided support to these bandits, including fifth columnists, because they are enemies of the people. We thus affirm in unison that we not only support any measure which the Revolutionary Army takes in its defensive posture but that we are also behind it and ready to give it rear guard support.

3) The meeting unanimously calls on both compatriots who joined the ranks of the bandits either out of innocence or forced to do so and Ethiopian refugees living abroad to abandon those who trade in the blood of the people, to take advantage of the amnesty granted by the revolutionary

government and to return home without delay and join the broad masses.

4) It is well recognized that organization is the guarantee for the success of socialist economic construction now underway in Revolutionary Ethiopia and particularly in view of the acute problems prevailing in the region and efforts towards the resurgence of such problems. We therefore, call on the peasantry to organize itself immediately into peasant producers' co-operatives in line with the programmes and directives given by our Revolutionary Leader, Comrade Chairman Mengistu. We at the same time express our readiness to make the necessary support.

5) We strongly condemn all foreign forces and intelligence agencies which support the hired assassins who trade with the lives of the oppressed in pursuit of their anti-freedom, anti-unity and anti-peace mission. We also warn that they cease channelling such support forthwith.

6) Recognizing the colonialist despoliation of Ethiopia's honoured and millennial history and the gravity of corrosive imperialist influence and alien culture forced on the Ethiopian people, the Revolutionary Government, after thorough assessment of Ethiopia's saga of freedom and struggle, has revived the history which was muffled by the discredited feudo-bourgeois order, and decided that monuments be erected in honour of those who died for the cause of the freedom and unity of the country as well as for other Ethiopian heroes.

Sincerely appreciating the initiative of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, Chairman of the PMAC and of COPWE and Commander-in-Chief of the Revolutionary Army, to lay cornerstones for monuments in honour of the famed Ras Alula at Dogali,

Zerai Deress in Asmara, as well as those who struggled and died for the cause of unity under the banner "Ethiopia or Death" and members of the Revolutionary Army who have fallen defending the cause of unity and revolution carrying aloft the banner "Revolutionary Ethiopia or Death".

We request the Revolutionary Government to study the history of the Region and take measures to put history in its proper context by erasing place names given and cultural influences bequeathed by colonialists.

7) Viewing the present class struggle in light of the confrontation between imperialism and socialism on the global scale, it will be seen that the imperialist plot hatched against the Ethiopian Revolution aims at changing the balance of forces in the region in favour of imperialism. We realize, in solemn recognition of our internationalist responsibility, that the victory of the Ethiopian Revolution means the victory of the anti-imperialist forces and that the failure of Ethiopia's revolution means the defeat of these forces and that therefore, our struggle influences developments in the Region and in the ultimate sense the world. Recognizing this and that our bitter struggle against imperialism is part and parcel of the world-wide anti-imperialist struggle, we call on all anti-imperialist forces to step up the support which they have been providing in the past.

During the morning session of the high-level meeting, presided over by Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam, the representatives of the regions of Kaffa and Illubabor, AETU, AEPA, REYA, REWA and professional associations pledged their readi-

ness to help implement the Red Star Revolutionary Development Campaign.

Comrade Begashaw Atalay, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Kaffa region and Comrade Simon Galorie, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Illubabor Region, spoke first. Comrade Mulugetta Yimer, Chairman of the AETU, reaffirmed that the union will contribute everything expected of it in the reconstruction efforts in Eritrea region in line with the "Red Star" development programme. Comrade Abdella Sonessa, Chairman of the AEPA, pledged that the peasantry will pay every sacrifice to help ensure that the "Red Star" project attains its objective.

Just before the morning recess, Comrade Amanuel Amde-Michael, Deputy Senior Minister, COPWE Central Committee member and Secretary-General of the Red Star Multifaceted Revolutionary Development Campaign, read out to the meeting messages of solidarity from self-help associations of Ethiopian nationals in the Sudan and Djibouti and Ethiopian Students' associations in the USSR, German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia.

Comrade Hailu Tujuba, Chairman of the Revolutionary Ethiopia Youth Association (REYA), later addressed the meeting and said that the secessionist bandits demonstrated their anti-people stance by forcing children to use rifles which they cannot even carry. He said that the problem posed by the bandits should be viewed in light of the international problem posed by imperialism.

Comrade Hailu pledged that the youth of Revolutionary Ethiopia are ready to pay whatever is demanded of them for the success of the Red Star Revolutionary Development Campaign.

Comrade Abezash Wolde-Michael, Chairperson of the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association, recounted the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggle waged by Ethiopian women in general and Eritrean women in particular.

Comrade Abezash pointed out that the women of Revolutionary Ethiopia are on the alert to make the necessary contributions towards the success of the campaign.

Chairmen of the Ethiopian Teachers' Association, the Federation of Health Professionals Associations and the Ethiopian Journalists' Association also addressed the meeting and declared the resolve of their respective memberships to contribute to the maximum towards the historic process now in motion in Eritrea Region.

During the afternoon session, statements were made by representatives

of the Ethiopian Writers' Union, the Ethiopian Painters' association, the Ethiopian Musicians' Association and the Ethiopian Veterinary Association as well as by delegates representing the Revolutionary Army and the Second Revolutionary Liberation Army.

The three-day historic meeting of national characteristic on the Multifaceted Revolutionary Development Campaign in Eritrea Regions was attended by Comrade Fikre-Selassie Wogderess, PMAC Secretary-General and COPWE Executive Committee member, Comrade Fisseha Desta, PMAC Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and COPWE Executive Committee member, PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee members, ministers, commissioners, COPWE Central Committee members, Ethiopian Ambassadors abroad, senior government officials, representatives of the Revolutionary Army and Police and of mass organizations and professional associations organized at the national levels, and delegations representing the various nationalities as well as religious leaders.

LABOR, SOCIAL AFFAIRS TASK FORCE FORMED

Addis Ababa THE ETHIOPIAN HERALD in English 5 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

ASMARA (ENA) — Comrade Kassa Kebede, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and Alternate member of the Central Committee of COPWE declared yesterday that a labour and social affairs task force was formed vested with a responsibility to overcome social problems caused by the secessionist bandits in Eritrea region.

Explaining the share of work of his Ministry in the Red Star Multifaceted Revolutionary Campaign for Eritrea region, disclosed that the task force consists of teams assigned in the labour and social affairs, enrolment and deployment, rehabilitation centre for the disabled, pensions as well administration research and planning services that will enable it to speedily execute its duties.

The labour affairs team's responsibility will be to organize and strengthen trade associations in the region arbitrate labour disputes in accordance with the Labour Proclama-

tion and coordinate labour association, employers organizations as well as government and mass organizations. The team will also see to it that conducive labour situations are created.

The team is also vested with the responsibility to supervise working conditions, implement labour agreements concluded in line with government law and directives.

The social team will take care of children orphaned by the conflict in Eritrea and will also create conditions whereby the old will be taken care of and social evils will be dealt with step by step.

The enrolment and deployment team on its part will register those who are unemployed and returnees who responded to the amnesty offer and will see to it that they are assigned in the vacancies. The team will also make studies in the social fields and will produce reliable statistics and documents.

Speaking on the work share of the team for the rehabilitation of

the disabled, Comrade Kassa stated that a number of the inhabitants of the region were rendered physically disabled by the secessionist bandits, and that the team is entrusted with the task of providing the disabled with artificial limbs, study and implement conditions to set up vocational training institutions for them and provide social services in general.

The pensions and administration team on the other hand will strive to strengthen the branch office of the Pensions and Social Security Authority set up in Asmara and will register pensioners and facilitate payment of their allowances.

CSO: 4700/785

CNTG SECRETARY DISCUSSES DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING WORKERS DURING 1981

Conakry HOROYA in French No 2899, 3-9 Jan 82 pp 47, 48

[Interview with Comrade Sekou Magassouba, secretary general of the CNTG [National Confederation of Guinean Workers], by Tamba Robert Millimono; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Now that a year has elapsed, is it possible to make an initial assessment of the results of the party's decision to make the workers in the trade union branches in the service and industries sectors responsible for food distribution?

[Answer] The Guinean labor party, the PDG [Guinean Democratic Party], by giving the workers an autonomous provisioning system, has consolidated labor's economic power. Our actions in defense of the workers' interests and increased production should be intensified. Our branches have achieved an excellent record in the management of food commodities. After 1 year of this management, we have accumulated a substantial amount, some 30 million syllis.

Permit me a digression. Whenever, in the course of its program for liberation, the PDG pushes us toward an ideal, its initiator, its guide always plays the part of a doctor: He prevents the outbreak of illness by good hygiene, and when it does occur, he prescribes the therapeutic measures necessary to suppress it. Thus, once the foreign mercantile bourgeois class left the scene, the party looked at trade as an element of national development and to further it, established improved structures, from the Guinean Bank to the ERC [Regional Trade Enterprise].

And we know what happened then, with the fraud and other breaches of trust by some employees in those units. Thus, energetically and with good reason, the party lanced that abscess and prescribed effective measures: suppression of the ERC's and labor organizations' administration of mass consumption goods.

[Question] The CNR [National Council of the Revolution] recently gave the CNTG a mandate to go ahead with the establishment of worker cooperatives at the regional level. What has happened since that time, and what overall steps have been taken to this end?

[Answer] I think I touched on the motives for creating the worker consumer cooperatives in the last part of my answer to your first question. In the mass

market, unethical managers have tried to bleed the nation's economy through their malfeasance. But as the party indicated, it is a question of persistent work to achieve the objective of our activities, to maintain conditions when they are normal and to restore them when they are disturbed, to reassess conditions if they change. The consumer cooperatives are going to enable us to bury the nightmare of the ERC's, but only if--and I mean only if--control of their activities remains permanently and unwaveringly in the hands of the regional workers' committees themselves, under the supervision of the national CNTG inspectors. These cooperatives will start going into operation in January 1982. We are waiting for the CRT's [Regional Workers' Committees] to inform us of the number of workers enrolled in the cooperatives and the total dues subscribed. This information will be provided to the central government, so we will know these cooperatives are off to a good start. President Ahmed Sekou Toure has decided to help all of them by matching the dues they subscribe. For example, if a cooperative has 1.5 million sylis in dues subscribed, the central government will give it another 1.5 million sylis to be put into its take-off fund. So the success of the undertaking is assured. In fact, it only depends on the dynamism and spirit of initiative of each cooperative.

[Question] Practical steps were contemplated to assure full implementation of the provisions of the Labor Charter. Could it really be said that they have been respected?

[Answer] I would say that positive results have been seen which ought to be encouraged and consolidated so that our legitimate hopes are totally realized.

Today, with the workers' Food Management Committees, a definitive solution to some of our problems is going to be found. For with 30 million sylis resulting from the activities of these committees, we can already buy more than 30 trucks which as the property of the labor organizations will be managed by the workers themselves. Each management committee will thus have its own truck. And this is something that will make us more effective.

[Question] You have just come back from a political and economic mission that led you deep into the country's interior, to Toungue for example. What were your impressions of the way our economic units are handling the accounting and management?

[Answer] The last two meetings of the Regional Council of the Revolution put an end to the bleeding of our economy. A tourniquet had to be applied. What was happening in our regional commercial enterprises was repulsive to people with any moral sensibility. It is intolerable for our comrades who have been put in responsible positions in the field of commerce to continue to make a scandalous display of their fraudulently acquired wealth, obtained at the expense of the laboring masses. It is time to find more effective means to stamp out the decay that has infected some people. We must rid people's minds of the evils inherited from the past: We must fight to the death and strike without flinching.

[Question] What special message do you have for the working class as we begin a new year?

[Answer] I would like to talk to the workers of Guinea, calmly and seriously, about the defense and consolidation of the interests and the gains of the workers; the protection of their purchasing power has been a constant and major concern of the PDG, the Guinean labor party, which sees it as the foundation and ultimate aim of all its revolutionary undertakings.

To do this, the party has given us progressive juridical tools destined to assure the continual advancement of economic and social conditions for the worker.

The year 1981 saw the monetary reform of 17 April, legislation to suppress malfeasance and theft, price controls on commodities and consumer goods, and a new schedule of transportation tariffs. On that front, the workers must launch themselves with even more vigor into the struggle already begun, without losing sight of the fact that victory over our afflictions cannot be achieved without sacrifice, and will require self-restraint.

Labor officials must break with narrow and stupid notions of personal, selfish interests. In the words of Comrade Sekou Toure, they should "consecrate themselves resolutely to the grim but necessary struggle of the revolution, with the certainty that the efforts we have begun will result in the building of a grand edifice, which is our whole life's purpose."

I would like to urge all Guinean workers to read, pen in hand, the texts of the three masterful lectures given by our comrade, the supreme leader of the revolution, at the 16th graduation ceremony at our university, the graduation dedicated to Mohamed V, and to make use of them as a guide to action in 1982, so that the nation's productivity will reach unprecedented heights.

Thus, each of you will see himself in a new light. And the hopes raised by the monetary reform of 17 May 1981 will not be shattered.

9516

CSO: 4719/506

BRIEFS

MILITANTS BLAST BRIDGE--Maseru--Insurgents of the Lesotho Liberation Army, the military wing of the exiled Basutoland Congress Party, used explosives at a bridge over the Hololo River in the Butha Butha area early yesterday morning, Radio Lesotho reported. It said the bridge has been slightly damaged and 50 kg of explosives defused at the scene. Between 10 and 15 kg of explosives had been used in the attack. The explosives were discovered where insurgents recently exploded mortar shells. A spokesman for the Liberation Army later claimed the bridge had been damaged to such an extent that vehicles were unable to pass over the bridge. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 5]

CSO: 4700/814

CHINESE TRADE UNION DELEGATION VISIT NOTED

Niamey LE SAHEL in French 16-17 Jan 82 pp 1-2

[Excerpt] A three-member delegation of Chinese trade unionists arrived in Niamey last Saturday. It was greeted by the Chinese ambassador to Niger; Comrades Adamou Moumouni and Sahabi Barthe, respectively deputy secretary general for foreign affairs and secretary of information of the USTN [Federation of Labor Unions of Niger].

The head of the delegation, Chen Yongwen, member of the secretariat of the All China Federation of Trade Unions, told us that their visit to Niger falls within the framework of strengthening relations which have existed for a long time between Chinese and Nigerien trade unionists.

"Chinese trade unionism, which goes back over 60 years," Chen went on to say, "has the objectives of encouraging Chinese workers to take initiatives, to develop the national economy without which well-being would be a meaningless word." "Of course, China has problems at present; however, Chinese workers are working tirelessly for the modernization of the national economy," Chen added.

"Thus the talks between the Chinese delegation and the Nigerien trade unionists," he told us, "will consist of a broad exchange of views and experiences which at the same time will strengthen Sino-Nigerien friendship."

Chen concluded by wishing greater success for Nigerien workers in their task of building the national economy and in their struggle against imperialism, Zionism and all the enemies of the Third World.

8143

CSO: 4719/509

CONCERN SHOWN ONLY ON INFORMATION MINISTER CHANGE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 17 Feb 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Shagari's New (?) Cabinet"]

[Text]

IF President Shehu Shagari had ever played anything close to his chest, it is his long awaited cabinet reshuffle. For weeks he let the public speculate what they would about the matter and he seemed to enjoy it all. The Press, he once told media men at a Press luncheon last year, was free to propose on the subject but his it was to dispose and he was not about to allow any speculations hurry him up. The speculations were fuelled further by (1) his nomination of 13 people for ministerial jobs when, as the Senate said, there were only six jobs to fill up, and (2) by his strongly worded warning, the other day, about his running out of patience with any lieutenants who proved incompetent and corrupt. All through, the President hardly gave any clue as to his intentions so much so that even his closest ministerial confidants were reported to have been jittery over their own fate.

Therefore perhaps the one sure thing that can be said of his cabinet reshuffle is that it is virtually the President's own handiwork. As such credit or blame would rightly go to him alone depending on whether the 'new' team performs or fails to perform. This is how it should be in a Presidential system. Once someone has been elected into office, he ought to be allowed free hand to make decisions. His party may have a say in such decisions but it is sheer humbug to talk about absolute loyalty to the party in a Presidential system.

What about the cabinet reshuffle itself? The informed public, we suspect, were not exactly surprised to see Mr. Isaac Shagari and Professor Iya Abubakar go. They have since resigned but both of them have featured consistently in speculations about which ministers will be dropped. On the whole, however, the exercise was a bit of an

anti-climax. The composition of what one might call the inner cabinet remains more or less as it was except for its slight increase in size and for a few changes in portfolios. This implies that the President is on the whole satisfied with his cabinet. Which, however, makes one wonder why he had to sound a strong note of warning about incompetence and corruption at the swearing-in ceremony of the 13 ministerial nominees.

As for those who have changed jobs, it is noteworthy that Malam Adamu Ciroma has moved to Agriculture. Given NPN's commitment to the Green Revolution, this is perhaps the most challenging job for the administration. Malam Adamu's choice may be due to his proven competence in his previous assignments. If Malam Adamu's movement is in order, it is difficult to say the same for the retention of Alhaji Bello Maitama Yusuf at Commerce. He is no doubt a capable young man, but going by suggestions that he has been liberal to a fault in issuing import licences, especially for batteries and cars, he needs to be more careful this time around. We are also surprised at the movement of Alhaji Garba Wushishi to head the Information Department. The performance of Chief Olu Adebajo who had been the de facto Minister of Information, though a seasoned journalist, has not been exactly brilliant. So his eclipse is not regrettable. But Alhaji Garba knows next to nothing about media practice and the one thing about a Presidency which needs expert handling is its public image. Shagari himself may be held in high esteem by even his rivals but this is no thanks to any imaginative thinking at Information. Still we hope Alhaji Garba would prove us wrong.

OAU URGED TO ADMIT WESTERN SAHARAN MEMBERSHIP

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 10 Feb 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Call Morocco's Bluff"]

[Text]

MOROCCAN intransigence which has consistently stood in the way of a peaceful settlement of the Western Saharan crisis was again on display in Nairobi this week. Heads of State of an Organisation of African Unity special committee meeting in the Kenyan capital resolved on Monday to damn the consequences by calling for a direct negotiation between the Polisario nationalists and their aggressors, the Kingdom of Morocco. King Hassan's government promptly and not unexpectedly announced that it would not sit down to talk with the nationalists.

The refusal of Morocco to co-operate has

been matched by an unparalleled ineptitude on the part of the OAU. It appears that whenever the organisation is about to declare an unequivocal stand on the issue, it allows itself to be cajoled by Morocco's threat of withdrawal of membership. But for the horse-trading and back tracking that went on at the Freetown summit in 1980, the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) declared by Polisario would have been accorded the rights of membership of the organisation. At last year's summit in Nairobi, Libya's surprising about turn helped to once more deny SDAR of membership.

An OAU spokesman, Dr. Peter Onu was re-

ported to have said on Monday that it was high time the issue was resolved. By calling for direct negotiations between the parties, the organisation has for the first time taken a bold step. But it could do much more than that. It should recognise and admit SDAR. Over half the membership of the OAU has granted the SDAR diplomatic recognition. Those who have not done so, and this includes Nigeria, should recognise the SDAR and secure its admission into the organisation. As for King Hassan of Morocco, he would do well to realise that no set of people can be denied their rights to self determination in perpetuity.

CSO: 4700/805

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON ANTI-NPN COALITION

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 3, 3 Feb 82 pp 3-4

[Article: "Nigeria: Marriage of Convenience"]

[Text]

Even before Nigeria's four opposition parties formally agreed last month in **Benin** to enter into an electoral alliance, the ruling *National Party of Nigeria* (NPN) felt threatened. President **Shehu Shagari** told the NPN convention at the end of last year that it could not ignore "the potential dangers which such an ill-motivated alliance and gang-up pose to the stability and healthy development of our national politics". In theory the new opposition lineup could become a formidable challenge. The NPN does not command a parliamentary majority, and its former ally, the *Nigerian Peoples Party* (NPP) has now authorised the governors of the three states it controls to join the common front of opposition governors — an effective forum for opposing federal policies, as the successful litigation against the NPN's Revenue Allocation Act has shown. Now 12 out of Nigeria's 19 states can and probably will make common cause on a variety of issues, and the NPN is in a minority on the state as well as the federal level.

In reality the threat to the NPN is less immediate. The NPP and its new allies, the *Unity Party of Nigeria* (UPN), the *Peoples Redemption Party* (PRP) and the *Greater Nigeria Peoples Party* (GNPP) have merely formed an electoral pact. A merger, as some of the younger leaders suggested, is out of the question. As the NPN has been pointing out for some time, this makes the PRP-engineered alliance a negative force, united only by the desire to wrest power away from the NPN. In Nigeria, to gain office is often an end in itself. If the alliance were to succeed in its aim at the next elections in 1983, its various components would certainly be engaged in a destructive struggle for office to replace the NPN, and that would militate against what Nigeria most needs: a

sense of national purpose.

The Benin agreement gives UPN leader **Chief Obafemi Awolowo** at the age of 72 the presidential candidacy, while ex-President **Nnamdi Azikiwe** of the NPP has evidently decided at 77 to avoid the hustings and assume the role of elder statesman. A lot may change before the nominations have to go in, and it is difficult to see either giving way for the other. Many of their supporters hope that both will be persuaded to give way to younger politicians. There is no lack of challengers within their parties.

The fragility of the new alliance is demonstrated by the wheeling and dealing which preceded the Benin accord. A meeting between the four party leaders called in November did not come off: the UPN did not turn up. Awolowo let it be known that there had not been sufficient notification to get a party mandate for an alliance, but this was only one of the reasons. Governor **Abubakar Rimi** of Kano, the driving force of the PRP's Imodou faction (see below), who organised the meeting, had to use all his persuasive charm to get Azikiwe to attend, but that meant inviting NPP chairman **Chief Adeniran Ogunsanya** as well. For reasons which go far into the past, this was unacceptable to Awolowo. A compromise was reached when UPN Senate leader **Chief Jonathan Odebiyi** was made chairman of the alliance's joint committee.

The lack of cohesion of the new grouping, which calls itself progressive by contrast with the conservative NPN, was underlined by the NPP's secretary general, **Dr Alex Fom**, who said that any talk of the alliance being socialist was "a waste of time". The common ground between the parties, according to Fom, is their opposition to NPN policies, and this

evidently meant their resentment at the NPN's grip on all top appointments.

To be fair, the new partners are motivated by principles which go beyond the desire for office. For instance the UPN's main policies — free education for all at every level, free medical treatment and rural integration — are largely shared by the PRP. The PRP Kaduna government, for instance, announced free medical services with effect from January 1st. The efficacy of this policy on the ground may be in doubt, but the intention is there. The PRP is the most radical of the parties, but the split between the Aminu Kano and the Imodou factions is now irreversible. It is the Imodou faction which has joined the new alliance. **Michael Imodou**, a well-known veteran trade union leader now officially leads the radical wing of the PRP; he represented it at the Benin meeting last month. **Aminu Kano**, the original PRP leader, and his colleagues recently declared that Governor Rimi and other 'disloyal' party leaders would not receive PRP sponsorship during next year's elections. Aminu Kano favours cooperation with the NPN; he is a northerner and would not easily enter into an alliance with southern, and particularly Yoruba, leaders. The Federal Election Commission (FEDECO) has decided to recognise the Aminu Kano part of the PRP as "official". This decision does not reflect parliamentary support. In the House of Representatives 38 out of 47 PRP members support Imodou, and five out of seven PRP senators are loyal to him. While Aminu Kano's popular appeal after a lifetime in politics should not be discounted, the electoral chances of the two factions will be finely balanced. It could be crucial to the 1983 election result. The Imodou faction may have to seek a new name, and while this may not be a major obstacle, it might run into difficulties over registration as a party which has fulfilled all constitutional requirements.

This very subject has occupied a lot of parliamentary time in recent weeks, with suggestions that the decision in such matters be removed from FEDECO's jurisdiction and placed with an all-party committee. Another thorny issue has been a proposal (favoured by Aminu Kano) to allow independent candidates to contest elections. This could lead to political upheaval, with independently-elected MPs up for auction as it were, in situations where there is a fine balance of power between parties on controversial legislation.

These questions have been debated as amendments to the federal government's Electoral Bill. Shagari wrote to the Speaker of the House of Representatives last month, requesting that some of the amendments be dropped because they might threaten the founda-

tions of "our young political system". It is unlikely that he will be heeded. But FEDECO has warned that if parliament does not speedily conclude debate on the Bill, the 1983 elections may have to be postponed, since arrangements depend on the new legislation.

The NPN is pointing with some glee to the lack of cohesion among its opponents, but it is itself in disarray. There has been some disquiet about the northern bias of the ruling party. To introduce a more equitable geographical distribution, there is to be "zoning", meaning that the percentage votes cast for the NPN in various areas will determine the number of delegates each area is entitled to send to the convention, which will nominate the presidential candidate. Officially, this is intended as an incentive for local parties to exert themselves during local elections, since it has been taken for granted until recently that Shagari would stand for office again. He is allowed two terms. But the acid test would come when Shagari's successor is chosen: "If the presidential pendulum does not swing to the south, then there will be trouble" — to quote a senior politician. This might arise before Shagari's second term ends in 1987. The NPN Senate leader, Dr **Olusola Saraki**, whose own ambitions are openly discussed in Lagos, recently stressed that the NPN had yet to nominate Shagari for a second term. The NPN's national secretary, **Alhaji Suleiman Takuma**, confirmed that the decision on the nomination for the presidency had been postponed for a year, and that no candidate has yet been ratified for 1983.

Saraki, of course, is a southerner, and top-level support for him was recently voiced in connection with his battle for power in his home state, Kwara, where he is opposed by the governor, **Adamu Atta**, (AC Vol 22 No 23). The NPN's national chairman, Chief **Adisa Akinloye** — another southerner — recently warned the Kwara NPN that any of its members, regardless of seniority, who acted divisively "at this crucial time" would be disciplined. At the same time he praised Saraki for being "calm in spite of some provocative activities against the party by some members". In fact, several leading Kwara NPN figures, including defence minister **Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi**, have been suspended from the Kwara party as a result of the quarrel. Oniyangi made his loyalties clear in December when he declared that he would support Governor Atta in his attempt to run for a second term. If Atta or Oniyangi were to be reprimanded by the NPN on a national level for their opposition to Saraki, they might seek their political careers outside the party.

If the polarisation between the conservative NPN and its allies and the comparatively progressive opposition groups continues, Nigeria would be heading for a two-party system ●

CENSUS PHILOSOPHY CONFERENCE ADVISES GOVERNMENT

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Feb 82 p 16

[Article by Olu Adebayo]

[Text]

THE Federal Government has been called upon to de-emphasise the population factor in the distribution of revenues and projects in order to depoliticise the census issue.

The call was contained in a communiqué issued at the end of the five-day National Conference on the Philosophy of Population census held at the Conference Centre of the University of Ibadan recently.

The conference also suggested that the number of representatives in the national and state assemblies be frozen at their current levels and beyond the next census to enable an effective check to be carried out on figures arrived at.

The conference emphasised the need for adequate population census data about the size and certain social, economic and demographic characteristics of the country's population in order to ensure a more effective planning for the country.

It therefore advised that the National Population Commission (NPC) should not only pursue the issue of another census but should also initiate programmes for the effective take-off of a compulsory system of registration of births and deaths as well as periodic monitoring of growth

rates of the population through sample survey.

It said further that it was necessary to embark 'on a vigorous information and public enlightenment programme on a nation-wide basis to disabuse the minds of the public and direct their attention to the proper meaning and utility services of population census data in Nigeria'.

In another development the chairman of the National Population Commission, Alhaji Abdul-Raman Okene, has said that the commission could not operate effectively because of lack of funds.

Alhaji Abdul-Raham told the Senate Committee on Public Services that the reduction in the 1982 capital estimate of the Commission from 47 million Naira to 5 million Naira was not in the interest of 'a reliable, reputable and acceptable census'.

The commission, said that nothing could be done in respect of the proposals for this year because of the reduction. He appealed to the committee to make adequate funds available to the commission to enable it to fulfil its programmes.

Asked to comment on the slash in budget estimates of the commission, the Federal Director of Budget, Chief Theophilus Akinyele, said that there was no justification for the 47 million Naira requested by the commission.

IRON ORE FROM ITAPE MINE TO SAVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 9 Feb 82 pp 1, 2

[Article by Omafume Amurun]

[Text]

MINISTER of Mines and Power, Alhaji Ibrahim Hassan has said that the country would have saved a lot of foreign exchange from the importation of iron ore for the Aladja Steel Plant if adequate attention had been paid to the Itape mines.

Speaking to the New Nigerian in Lagos at the weekend, Alhaji Ibrahim explained that if mining at Itape had started earlier, there would have been no need to import iron ore because there were surplus deposits of ore there.

Asked why mining did not start earlier, the minister replied that 'it was the fault of the original planners.'

He stated that the current importation of iron ore was temporary and would be phased out as soon as full production began at Itape mines in Kwara State.

At present, the Aladja Steel Plant uses iron ore imported from Guinea. The plant would utilise over 1.5 million metres of ore per annum.

Earlier, Alhaji Hassan had announced that his ministry would intensify

exploration activities in the country.

Already, he said, tin, columbite, iron ore, copper and other solid minerals had been discovered in Bauchi State by the Geological Survey Department and some private

operators.

According to him, during the 1982 financial year, the Federal Government would encourage the establishment and maintenance of mines reclamation in Plateau, Bauchi and Kaduna states.

Alhaji Hassan then, invited private entrepreneurs to set up joint mining companies in Ningi, Lame and Toro areas with the government.

He added that it had been realised that co-operation of the government and private sector was very vital in the development and continuing growth and prosperity of the mining industry.

BRIEFS

ID CARDS SOON--Arrangements have been completed for the opening of state branch offices of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in respect of the issuance of the identity cards. Minister of Internal Affairs, Professor Iya Abubakar disclosed this in Lagos to the House Committee on Internal Affairs while defending his ministry's budget estimates for 1982. According to him, recruitment of staff in all the state offices of the ministry was now being undertaken by the ministry to make the national I.D. policy a reality. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 13 Feb 82 p 16]

CSO: 4700/804

PROPOSITION TO CREATE TWO DEPARTMENTS HIT

Saint Denis TEMOIGNAGES in French 5, 6 Jan 82

[5 Jan 82 p 4]

[Article by Claude Hoarau: "Decentralization. The Right's Mad Idea of Creating Two Departments in Reunion. Anything at all to Try to Justify a Maneuver for Political Survival."]

[Text] The right's proposal to create two departments in Reunion rests on a certain number of considerations that deserve analysis. Giving the appearance of earnestness, they reveal the disarray that presently characterizes those who have governed for years without sharing power and who realize that things are now going to change.

Among those considerations, one of the more striking is: "Advantage must be taken of decentralization to achieve a full and complete harmonization of the texts governing the DOM [Overseas Department] and Reunion in particular with those which pertain to the departments of the Mother Country."

In order to meet the aspirations of the regions and to keep the promises made by the president of the republic, the government is proposing a reform tailored to allow the administration of the regions according to their particular needs. In this situation, the right would like to take advantage of this reform to "integrate" Reunion even more, and to expound a system identical with that of the mother country departments, when today no one with any sense denies the specific needs of Reunion.

And what if the government were to choose this course? What if it were to decide to abolish the Decrees of April 1960--those very decrees on which the right today is putting its bill forward? What if, furthermore, it were to abrogate the particular powers of the prefect, especially with regard to prices? And what if it decided to do away with dock dues, as being contrary to community regulations and basing themselves on the fact that "it is necessary to harmonize the texts which govern the DOM and those of the mother country," etc.?

In fact, this consideration reveals the extent of the gap separating the concerns of the right from those of the government.

Permanent Disorientation

Another argument in the right's bill has to do with Corsica which has been endowed with two departments: this argument calls for some comment on our part.

Let us first remind those who would like to compare our country with Corsica, that although the latter has a smaller population than ours, it is $3\frac{1}{2}$ times larger, with its 8,722 km², than Reunion.

With such an area, Corsica has well above the average land area for a French department, whereas Reunion, with its 2500 km² represents not even half of the average area of these departments.

Must one also emphasize that the creation of two departments in Corsica, even if it suited the purposes of the Corsican leading citizens supporting the politics of the government of the period, was considered nothing more than a gadget put forward by Giscard to conceal the extent of the Corsican problem?

Moreover, none of the counselors at the county council could say how the creation of two departments in Corsica has helped in the solution of the problems facing the country.

Finally, it is interesting that those who are trying to frighten public opinion as to the risk that Reunion may withdraw from French common law--as if it had been within it before--are today attempting to latch on to the Corsican plan, at a time when completely specific decentralization is achieved for this island. The local right is as out to lunch as ever!

Confession of Their Failure

The authors of the bill want to justify it socioeconomically and psychologically; so they advance arguments that are a confession of the failure of their policies over 25 years. "Besides the fact that the increase in our population would in itself justify the creation of a second department, and besides the fact that we are undoubtedly one of the few French departments to have so few communes, it must likewise be recognized that the mountainous terrain of the island sometimes requires, if not theoretically frequently in practice, a certain partitioning between the north on the one hand and the south on the other. So it is, and it must be admitted, that the population of some localities in the south sometimes feel themselves excluded from the advantages which it considers reserved for inhabitants of the capital or of other communes in the northern region.

Thus some lines of communication do not always play their part in an effective manner when it is a matter, for example, of putting into practice this or that policy determined by the government or the locally elected authorities.

Thus, furthermore, from the fact that all administrative machinery is concentrated in a single zone of the island, stems the continuing, and increasing imbalance which we have observed over a period of several years and which is only getting worse. It does go on without the concomitant traditional evils: the concentration of areas of unemployment, the depopulation of the countryside, the proletarianization of the large cities, lack of interest on the part of young people in working the soil which nevertheless in Reunion remains the number one productive sector." Incredible but true, one might say.

Pretext

Here are people who have governed Reunion for 33 years--since 1949. They have had to absorb major demographic growth and they never considered that "the population growth" justified the creation of a second department! Yet it is precisely at the point where emigration, birth control, and the decline in the fertility rate are leading to a stabilization in demographic flux that they dare to use the pretext of population increase to try to justify their maneuver for political survival.

Also incredible is this denunciation of the establishment of all governmental machinery in a single region, when it is this same rightist majority which has opposed all the proposals the left has made to decentralize this machinery to the south or west.

When the Communists proposed making a Cultural Center at Tampon, who opposed it if not the rightist majority?

When the PCR [Reunion Communist Party] proposed that the new Cultural Center be built outside St-Denis, who rejected our proposal and decided to build it in this city where anything at all has been put anywhere at all, without a general concept of the St-Denis area? Who, but the rightist majority? Did not this same majority say mockingly to Paul Verges: "We are going to decentralize. You will get the prison at Port?"

A Great Lie

With regard to the evils which the authors of the bill denounce, one would have to want to deceive the people of Reunion to say that unemployment, the depopulation of the countryside, the proletarianization of the large cities and the lack of interest of young people in working the soil are the consequences of the existence of a single department. It is a huge lie.

All these evils are the consequences of the policies pursued by the right in our country for the last 3 decades.

The rural exodus, denounced by our party for more than 5 years, is the result of the collapse of the growers' buying power (geranium crises, the despoiling of the cane growers since the perfidious Fedecanne agreement of 1969, the destruction of traditional family upbringing). It is also the result of inadequate provisions for the rural areas that the plan for the development of the elevated areas, belatedly adopted, cannot hope to stem.

Young people's lack of interest in farming has nothing to do with the existence of a single department. It is evident just as much in the elevated areas in the east or near St-Denis as in the elevated areas in the south. One cannot praise to the skies a Western type of life style and one cannot constantly glorify this "model" without believing that the latter will not end up being a snare and delusion for the young people of our traditional rural society. This too is the consequence of the policies of the right with its peddlers of delusion.

A New Policy Is Possible

It is deriding the people of Reunion to write: "Under these conditions, it is evident that to correct this one-sided development, a second pole of development must be created by setting up a second prefecture which would be established at Saint-Pierre, taking into account the driving force this commune could provide for the region."

We are among those who believe that the southern region has no need of a prefecture to undergo economic development in new conditions. In this matter, it is entirely a question of political will. It is this political will that has been lacking.

Tomorrow, it will not be lacking.

Tomorrow, when regional reform will have been achieved, when the people of Reunion will have confirmed their desire for change, in the unity of Reunion and its people, a new political course will be possible.

[6 Jan 82 p 7]

[Article by Claude Hoareau: "The Right's Mad Idea of Creating a Second Department in Reunion. It Is a Bad Move. It Would Be a Low Blow to the Unity of the People of Reunion"]

[Text] We saw yesterday that the right is proposing to create a second department in Reunion with a single goal in mind: to try to ensure the political survival of these men who have done so much harm to our country by supporting the operations of the former regime. Today, let us examine what the consequences of such a creation would be, stressing our conviction that the government will not allow itself to be intimidated by this crude maneuver.

Here is the text of the right's bill.

"First article: Two Departments are created in the territory of Reunion which are named respectively the Department of Northern Reunion and the Department of Southern Reunion.

The Department of Northern Reunion comprises the communes which currently belong to the districts of St-Denis and Saint-Benoit.

The Department of Southern Reunion comprises the communes which belong to the districts of Saint-Paul and Saint-Pierre.

The Department of Reunion is abolished.

If such a bill were passed, it would be a low blow to Reunion.

The majority of the population would be enclosed in the southern department (275,000 out of 500,000] i.e., in the poorer department.

With respect to administrative machinery, they would have to start from scratch, in a department where the contributive capacity will be lower than in the other. They say they want to improve the lot of the people of southern Reunion; the course they are proposing to follow would lead to greater difficulties for them.

In its patrimony, the northern department will have all the buildings of St-Denis, the new Port, and the Gillot airport which will again be modernized. It will have the extensive industrial areas of St-Denis and the port.

On the other side of the Galets River, the southern department will be made up of those large towns of the west and south where misery, shantytowns and unemployment hold sway.

These towns will not even be able to count on agriculture, which is subject to the serious difficulties one is familiar with.

Even if state and regional subsidies were allocated on a prorata basis according to population, the southern department, because of the poverty of its resources compared with those in the north, would have to suffer a position of inferiority for decades. That would provoke an antagonism between the two regions of our country that really does not exist today.

Is this what these men who persist in fostering a divisive atmosphere in our country are after?

We, for our part, say no! They are not going to give our country and its unity this low blow, which would entail serious consequences for Reunion and its people.

Confronting Future Generations

What is most incredible is that the right imagines that if this were to take place, things would run smoothly for them! That really is shortsighted politics.

For these people, who have served their own interests in serving those of the former regime, there is no future now that their big bosses and other "daddies" have been chased from power in France and are condemned to cross the desert. There are no administrative means to save them when their term is up.

If we in the Communist Party were unscrupulous politicians, we would say to the right: "Go ahead with your two departments."

The reform would not be possible, taking into account the customary debates, before 1983. Now, there is no doubt that the municipal elections will show a strengthening of the position of the left, at least as a consequence of the introduction of the vote proportional to a certain number of communes.

The first consequence of the creation of the two departments would be the dismissal from office of the three deputies. One cannot imagine a deputy of two departments at the same time.

Debre, now, the elected candidate of the east, was not elected by the inhabitants of Ste-Rose and of Plaine des Palmistes.

Fontaine, in his district, has Port and Possession which would be in the northern department.

In his district, Bertile has Ste-Rose and Plaine des Palmistes which would be in northern Reunion.

Furthermore, inasmuch as there is no department with a single deputy to set up two districts in each department and then proceed to new legislative elections.

Analysis of the electoral situation in the four districts indicates that the left, and particularly our party, would be capable of carrying off all four seats in the course of municipal elections. The right, which did not want anything to do with a Communist deputy, would find itself confronting two or three elected candidates from the PCR.

That would be an interesting situation for us, but we refuse to pay the price of sacrificed unity of our country and people.

As a responsible party, accountable before future generations for the future of this country of Reunion, we say: a single people, a single department, a single region, and a single assembly to guarantee the people of Reunion a better future.

Three Admissions by the Two-departmentalists

The last paragraph of the report on reasons for the right's bill for a second department is worth pausing to consider. Here is the text:

"Finally, compared with the sometimes sterile quarrels which have arisen recently, particularly at the announcement of the proposal of the bill relating to decentralization, it is certain that the creation of a second department in Reunion will have the effect of calming all fears and of silencing defeatist arguments. As a matter of fact, there will no longer be any reason, not a single one, to reject the straightforward application of the same decentralizing measures advocated for the metropolitan area: two departments, one region, Reunion will then be administered on the same model as any other region of France."

In this paragraph there are several admissions. The first is that all the uproar made over a supposed menace to the citizenry is only "sterile quarrels." We are not the ones who said it. It was the authors of the bill, and the General and Social Affairs Commission, and the majority of its members approved.

The second admission is that the wind of defeat is blowing on the right; "defeatist arguments" must be silenced, it says. When we wrote that fear of defeat actuates the right, we did not think that they would go so far toward admitting it.

Finally, considering that the creation of a second department would mean that there would no longer be any reason to reject the enforcement of decentralization, the right indicates that its sole concern is indeed to maintain one or two assemblies of leading citizens chosen on the basis of patronage and beginning with cantons, so as to retain--perhaps--a majority there, and to be able to oppose the regional assembly; the latter would be elected on a proportional basis and undoubtedly with a leftist majority.

Why Not Three, Four or Five Departments "To Create Jobs?"

The argument that the right considers decisive in its battle for the creation of a second department is that of employment. According to them, a second department with a prefecture at St-Pierre will result in the creation of thousands of jobs! One wonders whether one should take seriously such statements as those contained in the statement of the basis for the bill:

"Furthermore, there is another element that must be put forward, and that is the fact that the setting up of a second series of exterior services for the ministries will have the effect of creating some 3,000 primary jobs and about 15,000 jobs if secondary jobs are included. In the present context of the employment situation in Reunion, it is an element that we do not have the right to ignore.

On this subject, we must immediately forestall the argument which says that the result will be the arbitrary and inordinate inflation of a tertiary sector that is already very large since, and the example of Corsica is there to demonstrate the fact, there will not necessarily be an excessive increase in the expenses of the administration; it will just be a matter of restoring the balance between two sectors of a single region."

In this argument there is an evident contradiction. Either administrative jobs will be created and there will be inordinate inflation of the tertiary sector; or the balance between two sectors in a single region is restored in which case there will be no creation of a large number of jobs.

Unless the authors of the bill hope to induce us to believe that the creation of a second department will result in the creation of 15,000 productive jobs. Of course we expect proof of that. In that case we will have found the solution to the unemployment problem in our country. To solve it, all that we would have to do would be to create not two but three, four or five departments in our country.

In reality, no one can believe that the solution to the employment problem can lie in a decision to modify the administrative organization of the country. What we need is a change of policies.

9824

CSO: 4719/413

PDS POLITICAL BUREAU MEMBER'S RESIGNATION

Dakar LE SOLEIL in French 14 Jan 82 p 4

[Text] We have received the following statement from Mr Papa Kebe (BP No 88-Thiaroye-Gare, Dakar) in which on 5 January, he resigned from the PDS [Senegalese Democratic Party].

I, a founding member of the PDS in 1974; member of the Political Bureau since the first congress, the constitutional convention of Kaolack; a federal political chief of Cap-Vert's District 2, residing at Thiaroye-Gare; president of the third section of the second federation of Pikine at Thiaroye; president of the Kebemer Islamic Group which includes all the natives of Kebemer who called on Mr Wade to enter the UPS [Senegalese Progressive Union] arena in 1969--have decided to resign from that political party (the PDS) for the following reasons:

- (a) The party is founded on the principle of winning power democratically and not through forcing change in the system. Now Mr Wade, answering a question from a JEUNE AFRIQUE journalist, says that the principle of democracy is no longer possible in Senegal;
- (b) The doctrine of the party is based on labor socialism. Now Mr Wade says that it is working for socialism and liberalism;
- (c) It is obvious today that Mr Wade is up to something when he sends militants for guerrilla training in Libya with the aim of destabilizing the regime and consequently spilling Senegalese blood, seemingly ignoring the fact that only God has the right to decide men's fate.

Mr Wade's desperate and blind ambition to come to power by any means possible frightens me and requires me to part ways with him. He, and he alone, has sown the wind; and he alone will reap the whirlwind. So I say again, I am resigning from the PDS, starting today, to take my place in the PS [Socialist Party] in order to support the president in his difficult task of bringing about the economic and social recovery of the country for the benefit of the Senegalese people as a whole, who are dedicated to justice and peace.

9516
CSO: 4719/495

LAST YEAR SAID TO HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF PRICE INCREASES

Dakar LE POLITICIEN in French No 74, Jan 82 p 11

[Text] The year 1981 was a hard one for the Senegalese people, who saw an alarming increase in the cost of living. The price of most mass consumption commodities climbed "in Habib VI proportions" [presumably a reference to Habib Thiam, premier], while wages stayed put. Wallets became thinner and there was less in the housewife's shopping basket.

We are told that the price of vegetable oil did not increase, but that to get good peanut oil that used to cost 295 francs it is necessary to pay 395 francs or be satisfied with the vegetable oil that has recently been put on the shelves. In effect, it was a 34 percent increase.

A can of tomato concentrate went from 975 to 1,250 francs, and lump sugar from 260 to 325, which respectively amount to 18.5 and 25 percent increases.

Meat officially went up from 500 to 600 francs (beef) and from 650 to 700 (mutton). These prices are only theoretical. In practice, meat costs between 700 and 1,000 francs.

Soap took a fine little jump. The 750-gram bar which on 31 December 1980 sold for 143 francs is now posted at 168 francs, but in reality costs 180 francs.

So we finally come to gasoline, which has beat all records: regular went up from 160 to 225 francs, while premium increased from 170 to 265, that is, inflation rates of 59.5 percent and 56 percent. And it had repercussions over the entire transportation sector.

These are the first results of the administration of Habib VI, who has nevertheless not said a word. And we fear for the year ahead. His minister of financial and economic affairs has in effect promised that "the year 1982 will be as hard" as the one just past. In the name of economic recovery. Thus, the government of Habib VI intends to restore the financial health of the state by putting holes in the people's wallets while calling on them to make even more efforts. It is cunning, but it is not at all certain that our people, who are not children, will continue to accept it. And the time is not far off when the people will say no to endless price increases. Then it will be a real donnybrook.

9516

CSO: 4719/495

INTERVIEW WITH SDSF OFFICIAL 'UMAR SALAR 'ILMA

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic No 1041, 23 Nov 81 pp 32-33

[Interview with 'Umar Salad by AL-HURRIYAH: "Opposition Spreads and Ruling Power Is Falling Apart"; date and place not specified]

[Text] Siad Barre's authority is weakening and falling apart more and more, while the country is rapidly drawing close to famine. The opposition is spreading to the political agencies of the regime and currently includes various parties within the government. The forces of the opposition have among themselves formed the Somali Democratic Salvation Front.

AL-HURRIYAH had an interview with Comrade 'Umar Salad 'Ilmi, previous assistant secretary general of the ruling Somali Socialist Revolutionary Party and one of the leaders of the opposition, who recently left Mogadishu to join the Somali Democratic Salvation Front.

Comrade 'Umar first told us how he left his country:

We were five people. We had decided to leave the country in compliance with a decision issued by the forces of the opposition related to the Democratic Salvation front in order to meet the requirements of our action abroad. We previously operated underground at home. The five of us left the country while others remained at their posts.

The five people in question are 'Umar Salad 'Ilmi, assistant secretary general of the ruling party; 'Abdallah Muhammad Hasan, member of the People's Council and of the central committee of the party, in charge of the party cadres' training department; along with the three other party cadres, namely: 'Uthman Warsama Salih, member of the central committee of the Somali Revolution's Youth Federation and an official working at the headquarters of the central committee; Sahrah 'Abdallah Farih, a female cadre of the party and member of the central committee of the Youth Organization; and Ahmad 'Abbas Ahmad, lecturer at the National Somali University and an active politician.

Background of the Situation

[Question] Is it possible to give us a picture of the situation in Somalia?

[Answer] I must first of all give you an idea of the background, and I shall then tell you about the present situation. A military coup led by Siad Barre took place in 1969 when the situation in Somalia was at its worst. That is why the people supported that coup, particularly because it was accompanied by progressive and revolutionary slogans. Progressive and revolutionary forces knew that Siad Barre was no socialist, but they tried to guide the coup toward the sound democratic and socialist path. The revolution subsequently took some progressive steps such as nationalizations of the private sector and the establishment of the public sector at home, as well as an anti-imperialist foreign policy. However, Siad Barre's personal and dictatorial policy progressively started leaning towards the right, ultimately reaching its apex when war was declared against the Ethiopian revolution. The declaration of war against the Ethiopian revolution took place when that rightist trend reached a critical point. The purpose of this war was to deal a fatal blow to both Ethiopian and Somali revolutionaries by overthrowing the Ethiopian revolution and annihilating socialist and revolutionary tendencies in Somalia.

The progressive forces tried to prevent Barre from starting the war, but he refused and went along with the imperialist advices inviting him to seize the opportunity to strike Ethiopia at the very start of its revolution. What was the result? Somalia lost the war, its army disintegrated, and the country entered an unprecedented state of ruin. In addition to this, that war once again tied Somalia to the wheel of imperialism.

Dreadful Slump of Economic Conditions

[Question] What is the present economic situation of Somalia?

[Answer] Mass famine was the consequence of the war and the economic policies which followed it. The inflation rate went up beyond 500 percent. According to the statistics of the World Bank, the per capita income reached a critical low--\$100 or the equivalent of 600 Somali shillings--while house rentals reached hundreds of shillings. The price of one kilogram of rice went up to 25 shillings, whereas it previously amounted to 6 shillings. Oil increased from 7.5 shillings, beans from 3 shillings to 40 shillings, and so forth.

The public sector went completely bankrupt. The recommendations of the World Bank to improve the status of the currency and the economy aim at making this tragic situation worse. The World Bank actually recommended economic relaxation, the devaluation of the shilling, and the discontinuation of the public sector. So much for the economy! With reference to the domestic policy, Siad Barre has plunged the country into a swamp of despotism, terrorism, tribal conflicts and fights. Hundreds of thousands have fled the country, while many thousands have been put in jail without trial, from all social strata including executive officials, civil servants, military people, workers and students. There is no freedom whatsoever.... In spite of that, the ruling authority still pretends that it is socialist!

Inconsistencies Within the Government

[Question] Comrade 'Umar, can you give us an idea of the inconsistencies existing within the government?

[Answer] Siad Barre had to turn against all the basic governmental institutions when he found that there existed a strong opposition. The People's Council and the central committee of the ruling party had refused to let American military bases be established in the country. We also refused to support the Camp David agreements. That was why Siad Barre took personal decisions regarding those questions. In spite of the fact that it was Siad Barre himself who had selected the members of the central committee and the People's Council, most of them were opposed to both his domestic and foreign policy for various reasons. Some opposed it on account of deviation from the socialist line, and others owing to competition for influence and personal reasons. The sessions of those institutions have been suspended for a year, and Barre has become the only ruling institution! In order to be able to rule, he has placed his relatives in all the institutions, and particularly in the army. In spite of that, you still can say that Barre's policy has to face a tremendous opposition, and that his actual power is restricted to some towns.

Salvation Front

[Question] What can you tell us about the Salvation Front?

[Answer] The people of Somalia has decided to fight against the dictatorial rule and its policy. That is why the fronts of the opposition, both at home and abroad, had created the Somali National Salvation Front, which is an armed front, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Somalia, the Somali Workers' Party, the Somali National Movement.

After various attempts, the first three organizations got together and united their forces through the creation of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front, in order to accelerate the overthrow of the dictatorial rule. If you ask me why Siad Barre has remained in power up to now in spite of the people's resentment against him and of the spreading opposition, I must tell you that Siad Barre is still there by reason of his abundant bloodshed and fearful violence.

We personally hope that the Somali Democratic Salvation Front will take steps in order to accelerate the actual overthrow of Barre so that freedom and dignity may be returned to the people, and Somali may assume a position opposed to imperialism and Camp David.

2693

CSO: 4504/117

SDSF-DFLP JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic No 1041, 23 Nov 81, p 33

[Article: "Somali-Palestinian Joint Communique"]

[Text] At the invitation of the central committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a delegation of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front came to visit the DFLP, and both sides conducted talks dealing with the relationship between both parties, as well as the fighting bonds existing between both the Somali and Palestinian peoples. On the Somali side, the talks were attended by Comrade 'Abdurrahman 'Aydid, member of the executive committee of the Democratic Salvation Front and head of the delegation, along with Comrades 'Umar Salad 'Ilmi, 'Abdallah Muhammad Husayn, and other comrades. On the side of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the talks were attended by Comrade Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and member of the politbureau of the party, along with Comrades Abu 'Adnan and Taysir Khalid.

A joint communique was published at the end of the talks. In this communique, the Somali expressed its support and assistance in favor of the Palestinian people's struggle for its legitimate rights to return to its home land, decide on its own destiny, and have an independent state under the leadership of the Liberation Organization, which is the sole legitimate organization of the people of Palestine. The Palestinian side also expressed its support in favor of the Somali people's struggle under the leadership of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front aimed at overthrowing Mohamed Siad Barre's dictatorial regime in Mogadishu and establish a national democratic government which will bring Somalia back to the fold of the Arab resistance and opposition forces.

Both sides condemned the suspicious Arab propagandas conducted by the Arab reaction in order to put an end to isolation from Sadatist Egypt and the Camp David agreements. They also condemned the "Bright Star" joint military maneuvers undertaken by the United States with the cooperation of the regimes of apathy and treason in Egypt, the Sudan, Somalia and Oman. They consider these maneuvers as a direct aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the countries of the resistance, as well as a direct occupation of Arab territories.

The communique furthermore attacked the so-called multinational force in Sinai, which they consider as being tantamount to a world imperialist occupation under the leadership of the United States with the cooperation of the countries of Western Europe.

Both sides confirmed their full solidarity with the struggle of the Arab peoples in the Sudan, Oman and the Western Sahara, as well as their joint desire to develop and consolidate mutual relations between themselves since this is in the interest of the joint struggle of their respective peoples as well as the people of the Arab nation.

2693

CSO: 4504/117

SOMALI PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED

Beirut AL-HURRIYAH in Arabic No 1041, 23 Nov 81 p 33

[Article: "Somali Delegation's Press Conference"]

[Text] "We condemn the American military intervention in the internal affairs of Egypt, the Sudan, Somalia and Oman under the cover of the current military maneuvers. We also publicly reject and condemn all the peacemaking plans represented by the Camp David agreements and all the other projects concerning their implementation, including the so-called Fahd plan, which fails to acknowledge the Palestine Liberation Organization as being the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and calls for the recognition of Israel in the first place."

This is a quotation from the press conference held last week by the representatives of the Somali Democratic Salvation Front at the central information of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Beirut. The Somali Front, whose formation is recent, introduced itself and presented a summary of its political program regarding domestic, economic, social and foreign affairs. It also described the circumstances through which Somalia currently goes under Siad Barre's dictatorial regime.

The tasks defined by the program, and which the Front currently struggles in order to accomplish at home, include the liquidation of the manifestations and institutions of the present regime, and the replacement of the latter with a national democratic regime, as well as the liquidation of American bases in Somalia and letting the masses enjoy all forms of democratic freedom.

With reference to foreign policy, the Front struggles in order to establish permanent peace between the countries of the African Horn on the bases and principles of neighborliness, peaceful coexistence and respect of national sovereignty. The Front also supports the struggle of the Palestinian people in order to recover its national rights, starting with the establishment of an independent state on its national soil under the leadership of the PLO. Apart from this, the Somali Front expressed its thanks to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine "which has participated and played an important part--since the very beginning--in the unification talks" between the various leftist forces of the opposition in Somalia, which culminated the announcement of the creation of the National Salvation Front.

REACTION TO MUGABE OUSTER OF NKOMO GIVEN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 6

[Editorial: Carry On]

[Text]

WE WONDER what Lord Carry-on-selling-the-White-man-down-the-river Carrington is going to do now that the house of cards he built at Lancaster House is collapsing.

All that tommy-rot a couple of years back about democracy in Zimbabwe, and the Whites having their rights entrenched in the constitution, and the Blacks living happily ever after in a non-racial paradise.

Oh, what a luvverly picture Lord C painted when he pressured Mrs Thatcher at the Lusaka Commonwealth conference into selling out what was then Rhodesia.

We warned him at the time that the end result would be that Mr Mugabe would gain power by intimidation at the polls, and that afterwards there would be no hope for the Whites — and none for the moderate Blacks, either.

But who were we to tell Lord C anything? The great White Master in Whitehall knew all the answers. Weren't the British colonisers in Africa? Didn't they forecast the winds of change that were going to blow across the continent? Didn't they hand over their Protectorates to the Blacks, leaving them awfully poor but free to do their own thing (if their new Black rulers let them).

And now the crunch has come in Zimbabwe.

Mr Mugabe is turning the screws on the Whites, in ways we have mentioned on more than one occasion. And they're quitting by the thousands.

But Lord C shrugs that off.

"Just the normal post-independence problems, old boy," we can imagine him saying. "You see, we do expect democracy from those blighters in Pretoria ... a free Press and all that ... and let the Blacks have the vote and take over, Mr Boater.

"But we forgive the Black Prime Ministers for any indiscretions, my deah fellow. After all, they aren't really up to democracy as we know it ... Something to do with the bush and their not having it at the breast, if you know what I mean.

"So if Mugabe slings that Stuttaford chap, that Member of Parliament, into jail and tortures him, well, you know how it is in the bush war. One does get a bit bush-whacky.

"Anyway, it's no good Stuttaford's friends complaining to us. We're not involved. We can't tell Mugabe what he must do, old man. He's really running the show, not us.

"You think that since we helped to put Mugabe in power, we should be able to tell him that holding an MP and other Whites in detention without trial is not on?

"But goodness, my deah fellow, that would be interfering in the affairs of Zimbabwe and it's simply not done. You say we don't hesitate to do so in the case of South Africa, putting on all sorts of pressures on the Boaters. All of them.

"But that's because they're White, you know, my deah chap. And the Whites of

South Africa must go, too, if we're going to have peace, and Black rule, and no democracy, and Marxist socialism, and a one-party State in South Africa, too.

"It will solve the whole problem. We just eliminate all the Whites and all Africa is Black.

"Who needs democracy, when trade is good, and there are 200-million potential Black customers, and the British Raj. . er. . I mean Crown, has a bit of influence in the continent, when it hasn't much influence anywhere else.

"Oh yes, I do see that Mugabe has found arms caches belonging to Nkomo's party and former guerrillas and is pretty cross about it all.

"Might even charge Nkomo with treason.

"Am I unhappy about what's going on? Not really, old boy. I'll tell Mugabe we're displeased, but we're not really angry with him.

"He's the boss, the baas as they say in South Africa, and what the boss says the rest must accept.

"Bye, Smith. Bye, Nkomo. Bye, Stuttaford. Bye Muzorewa. Bye Lancaster House. Bye, constitution. The sun has set on Em-pyah and has risen over Mugabe and his crowd.

"As I've always told Maggie:

"If you can't beat 'em, join 'em. And so say all of us in Whitehall."

PARLIAMENTARY REACTION TO STEYN REPORT GIVEN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 4

[Articles by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — "Shocking and disgraceful — a matter of scandal" is how Mr David Dalling, PFP spokesman on Press matters, yesterday opened the PFP's attack on the Steyn Commission's report on the South African mass media.

Mr Dalling said, in the special three-hour debate on the report and its recommendations, that the report "was a great shame for South Africa".

He said it contains a sophisticated opening piece of "climate setting" and announced "that a South African community existed".

"Then it defines the country, in which less than 20 percent of the population have a vote, in which people are banned and imprisoned without trial and of which some die, as a dynamic expanding democracy," he said.

Onslaught

He said the report pontificates on the threat situation, the politics of siege, and the inevitable endorsement of the Nat belief of total onslaught, the Soviet onslaught, Western liberal groupings, a myriad Black move-

ment, even priests, and exposes them all as part of a vast and evil conspiracy of world-wide proportions to destroy and decimate all that is good in our fair and badly misunderstood land.

"And for every total onslaught, there must be a total strategy, for how could one possibly go without the other?"

Mr Dalling said the report in fact "totally" dealt with this "total" threat.

Only four

He said it was fascinating to note that of the 176 individuals and institutions consulted, only 4 were non-White. "thus ensuring that the Commission achieved an even balance, as is customary in this country".

Referring to the commission's two main recommendations, he said the establishment of a central Press council and of a statutory register of journalists "to guarantee the media freedom and independence and to provide for internal control" was nothing but a device which would have the power to reprimand, punish or to debar journalists from writing, or to silence those who go too far

and to strike down those who break the rules of the "total strategy."

Mr Dalling said no one asked for a register of journalists.

"Of course, there were precedents. Hitler created one years ago in Germany. General Franco introduced one in Spain. Mussolini got it going in Italy. Papa Doc Duvalier saw merit in the concept and Nicaragua has one. And certainly they exist in profusion behind the Iron Curtain," he said.

He said a coercive register and the sword of political discipline held in the hands of an ever vigilant government-supporting council, was South Africa's democratic answer to the onslaught conducted by the Marxists forces.

Infringement of Copyright Act Claimed

CERTAIN aspects of the Steyn Commission report indicated that, prima facie, there existed an infringement of the Copyright Act, Mr Dave Dalling (PFP, Sandton) said.

He said it appeared the commission had lifted certain passages in the report from a book, "The Rise and Crisis of Afrikaner Power", written by Herbert Adam and Herman Giliomee.

Mr Dalling then quoted from two passages in the book and two in the report which he said were remarkably similar in intellectual thought and even in literary style.

"Incredible, isn't it, that a finding of a commission, after independent, scientific research and deep thought should coincide so exactly with the thinking and even word choice of Messrs Adam and Giliomee?"

Mr Dalling said he had a few questions firstly for the commission and secondly for the Government.

"How many other passages, quotations, opinions and findings have been surreptitiously cribbed from the original works of others?"

"How many of the views offered are really those of the commis-

sioners? Whose opinions are whose?"

"What value can be placed on this report, which pleads Press freedom but which recommends a system of control which will lead to the death of that freedom, a report which condemns journalists without hearing them or reading the work upon which the recommendation is based?"

"And finally what value can be placed on the views of men who have borrowed them from others without acknowledgement, a report which even has mistakes in its errata list?"

"A single dishonesty in a document should destroy it. Three, and perhaps others undiscovered, should consign it to where it came from."

"I ask you, what cog-nisance can any honest academic give to the writings of these learned, unbiased commissioners?"

"Academics who are found out in this sort of thing lose their jobs and reputations. Journalists who plagiarise others are fired."

"Civil court cases have been founded, and damages awarded. And not least, prima facie, there seems to exist here an infringement of the Copyright Act."

'Media Under Siege in Onslaught on SA'

The media are under siege in the total onslaught being waged against South Africa, Mr Z P le Roux (NP Pretoria West) said.

The media is a target for South Africa's enemies in the survival battle, the reality and intensity of which nobody should have any illusions.

It was essential that there should be a good understanding between the Government and the media, and that the media should put its house in order.

One particular journalist was especially guilty of what the Steyn Commission saw as being "unduly derogatory and belittling", Mr Le Roux said.

This was Ken Owen Editor of the Sunday Express, who had written in the Cape Times that the commission exposed itself in "revealing flashes of ignorance" by claiming that the Soviet Union pursued its onslaught through the South African Communist Party and the ANC.

The commission had in fact hit the target, and Mr Owen had revealed himself as a disseminator of misinformation.

Raw Denies NRP Gave Full Backing to Steyn Report

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, yesterday denied newspaper reports that his party had given unqualified backing to the Steyn Commission's proposals on the Press.

He said during the Steyn Commission debate that his party had issued only one statement since the report was published, and its contents could by no means be described as unqualified backing.

His party's view was that the media themselves should control and regulate their role. "The alternative is a form of State control which I reject."

He agreed however with the commission's findings on the "partisan and activist role some of the media often play to the detriment of informed public opinion."

He quoted as an example "the manipulation" of the Buthelezi Commission report "by someone, somewhere."

This report had not yet been tabled or made public, yet daily it was referred to by certain newspapers "to create an atmosphere so that when it is published people will already have been conditioned to what 'they' expect."

Mr Raw suggested that the emphasis be removed from the registration of journalists to the content of what was written and published. A statutory media council should administer a code of ethics and rule of conduct, and should consist of 12 members, of which two would be Government nominees.

The council's membership could consist of three from the SABC, two from magazines, five from newspapers, and two Government nominees.

Affiliation should be accompanied by a list of all members, and no fulltime journalist should be refused membership in his grouping.

"The elected council should have a statutory obligation not only to deal with complaints but to monitor and act against infringement of the code of conduct."

He also suggested a right of appeal to the courts.

Mr Raw agreed with the Steyn Commission's finding that monopolies and secret shareholdings of newspapers were not in the interests of a free Press.

But he had reservations on specific proposals and, in particular, was opposed to excluding small local newspapers owned by individuals or families and providing what he saw as a valuable local service.

The Press Vilified Steyn, says Wiley

The Steyn Commission
Report had been vilified and heaped with negative criticism and abuse, Mr John Wiley (NP Simonstown) said. This had occurred despite the fact that the commissioners had gone out of their way to be even handed.

"The report rings with concern for the safety of the country and the ability of South Africa to survive."

'Liberator'

While Mr Justice M T Steyn was Administrator-General of South West Africa the opposition had called him the territory's "liberator" because he lifted colour bar legislation but now saw him as the scourge of Press freedom because he recommended greater control.

Mr Wiley said that while he agreed with the chairman about the onslaught on South Africa, the judge was a wishful thinker for believing there could be mutual respect between the Government, the media and private enterprise and that they would co-operate to see that the public got a true picture of events.

Demands

"The reaction to a judicial commission which found that the media was not measuring up to the demands of the times and the needs of the community was nothing but abuse and

negativity."

The English language Press particularly had vilified the findings and the pity was that they were read by many people while the report was read by few.

Mr Wiley charged that the "hysterical" reaction to the report from abroad had been carefully orchestrated inside South Africa.

Encourage

"The commission was satisfied that the media contribute to and often encourage revolutionary forces at work in this country.

"Instead of abusing and vilifying the commission, the leaders of the Argus and Saan newspapers should have given attention to the commission's findings."

Mr Wiley said there was an unhealthy monopoly of the English Press by the Argus and Saan groups.

Involved

Argus was involved in a "creeping takeover" of Saan and at present held 40 percent of Saan's shares.

The commission had noted that monopolistic conditions were the biggest single threat to Press freedom.

Newspapers would become more representative of South Africa if the commission's recommendations on share-owning were put into effect and the public was allowed to acquire shares, Mr Wiley said. — Sapa.

THE Government had to produce evidence of its commitment to the established norms of democracy if there was to be trust and mutual co-operation between it and the media, Mr Brian Page, (NRP Umhlanga), said.

"This is not the time in the history of our country for self-righteous anger or petulant obstinacy. If we have the interests of the people of this country at heart we will know that it is not the time for settling old debts.

"It is rather the time for the State and the

media to join hands and pool resources to ensure the survival and growth of freedom and democracy on this sub-continent."

Mr Page said Government action over the past decades had contributed to the growing rift between the State and the media, South Africa and its traditional Western friends, and the population groups within the country.

Mr Page said the commission had been equally critical of the English and the Afrikaans Press.

PARLIAMENT HOLDS SPECIAL DEBATE ON RABIE REPORT

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 4

[Text]

A NATIONAL Party member challenged the Progressive Federal Party to state clearly whether or not it was in favour of the ban on the African National Congress.

Speaking in a special debate on the report of the Rabie Commission of Inquiry into Security Legislation, Mr Louis Nel (NP Pretoria Central) said that without a clear answer proper debate with the PFP on the dangers facing South Africa was not possible.

"It is clear that there is a deep division in the PFP and that it is unable to work in the interests of the country."

The peace and order

South Africa enjoyed today was due to the SA Police and the country's security legislation. This legislation and the recommendations of the Rabie Commission were closely related to the dangers confronting South Africa.

It was a set of rules which could effectively be used to combat the external and internal threats against the country.

The PFP should say whether it accepted that:

● According to the ANC a "peoples war" had already started in South Africa;

● The ANC was responsible for the attacks on

Sasol and last year's explosions in Pretoria and the Silverton siege;

● The ANC regularly recruited young Blacks to its ranks;

● The arms caches found from time to time were meant to kill, and

● According to the findings of the Rabie Commission, the ANC had 1 000 men under arms.

"The PFP should also say whether it agrees that the intensity of the attacks against South Africa would escalate."

The fact was that the Opposition did not want to enter into an open-hearted and genuine debate with the Government on the matter.

'Reds use Democracy'

TWO planned revolutions formed part of the communist threat against South Africa, one being 'democratic' and the other socialistic, Dr C J van der Merwe (NP Helderberg), said during the debate on the Rabie Commission's report.

Democratic organisations would be infiltrated by the Communist Party, whose members would turn

any democratic revolution by that organisation into a communistic revolution.

One of the means of achieving this was to play on people's grievances, such as the ANC did in associating itself with the grievances of the Black consciousness movement.

Referring to Mrs Helen Suzman's speech during the debate, Dr Van der Merwe said she

was asking that detainees who had been instructed by the enemy to commit suicide rather than betrayal, should be allowed to remain silent rather than have to die.

She was admitting that people who committed suicide in detention had information which could betray the enemies of South Africa and was sanctioning this.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. —

The New Republic Party was firmly committed to a judicial tribunal as the only fit body to be seen by the public as replacing the rule of law, Mr Pat Rogers (NRP, King William's Town) said.

Speaking in the debate on the Rabie Commission's report, he said his party acknowledged the immensity of the onslaught against South Africa and the proportional struggle the country had to prepare for.

The Government had as yet offered no total strategy for its concept of a total onslaught. The Opposition acknowledged an onslaught but was reluctant to acknowledge the totality of its political, military, economic and psychological character, with the result that the very term had become hackneyed and the meaning discredited.

"It is absolutely vital that we agree upon the threat even if we disagree on the measures to counter it, or we will be nothing but a nation in disarray," Mr Rogers said.

He described a quotation from "A Synthesis of the Russian Textbook on Psychopolitics"

as a comprehensive declaration of intent by South Africa's enemies. The quotation included instructions on killing the national pride and patriotism of just one generation to win a country, and stated that in order to be conquered, a nation had to be degraded.

It also referred to the need to recruit every agency, economics, politics, sport, race differences, art, music, pornography, education and religion of "the nation marked for slaughter into a foaming-hatred of religious healing". Religion had to become synonymous with insanity because a nation's health and efficiency depended on a close relation between social practice and religious belief.

The Rabie Commission's recommendations were based solely on the premise that security legislation was necessary to combat increasing terrorism and sabotage planned by organisations intent on violently overthrowing the existing order. These organisations were supported by communist countries.

South Africa's dilemma was that security legislation was not a solution but rather marked a state in the affairs of society that had to be repaired urgently.

"The all-pervading concern should be to return the situation to the rule of law or as near to the rule of law as possible at every opportunity."

Security legislation was a last resort. The enemy scored a victory when he forced a society to give up its standards because that society became enmeshed in actions foreign to it and people recoiled from these.

There was no greater example of this than the South African reaction to deaths in detention.

The Government's record in exercising security legislation was abysmal. What was needed was in-depth discussion and searching analysis of the reason for 43 deaths in detention over 20 years.

Of these 16 were reported to have committed suicide by hanging and two others by their own hands. Five were reported to have fallen to their deaths, 12 were found by magistrates to have died of natural causes and there were no details in the cases of seven.

Nobody believed these to be the true facts. A serious omission on the commission's report was that the very matter about which the nation sought reassurance had been left untouched.

"There is sufficient evidence available for the public to realise that doctors, magistrates, police and prison personnel have all been compromised by deaths in detention and that solitary confinement is an acute form of mental torture."

The resultant loss of public faith in the administration could not be allowed to continue.

Because justice was not being seen to be done, the boards of review recommended by the commission had to be accorded the highest status which had to be beyond question. The NRP was firmly committed to a judicial tribunal as being the only fit body to be seen by the public as replacing the rule of law.

Apart from urging review to be undertaken by a full judicial tribunal, the party recom-

mended that the initial period of detention of 30 days be reduced to 14 and that the further period of detention authorised by the Minister of law and order be reduced to 30 days before review. During those periods of detention there should be visits in private, not less than once a week, by a magistrate and a district surgeon who would have the right to insist on a private doc-

tor accompanying him.

The NRP also recommended that a person whose case was being reviewed be allowed the assistance of a legal representative at the proceedings.

"We take note of the commission's finding that in the long run security legislation by itself can be no guarantee of the maintenance of law and order in our country — Sapa.

Section 6 'Killed Aggett'

SECTION six of the Terrorism Act had killed trade unionist Dr Neil Aggett, who was found hanged in his cell at John Vorster Square recently, Mrs Helen Suzman, the chief Opposition spokesman on civil liberties, said yesterday.

Speaking in the special debate on the report of the Rabie Commission of Inquiry into Security Legislation, she asked the Minister of Police, Mr Louis le Grange to investigate allegations that Dr Aggett was subjected to "inhuman and degrading treatment" while in detention.

"Whatever the findings of the post mortem are on Dr Aggett, and no matter what the inquest findings are, it was Section Six of the Terrorism Act that killed Neil Aggett," she said. She was criticising provisions allowing indefinite detention without trial and solitary confinement.

Amazed

Mrs Suzman said she was amazed the Rabie Commission had not recommended scrapping Section Six of the Terrorism Act as it had brought nothing but sorrow and disgrace to South Africa.

Mr Le Grange rose on a point of order and asked the Speaker, Mr J P du Toit, whether reference to Dr Aggett was not sub-judice in terms of a previous ruling by the Speaker, and whether the reference by Mrs Suzman should not be expunged from the Hansard record of the proceedings.

No opportunity

Why I'm asking is because there will be no opportunity to reply," he said.

"The Minister is correct," the Speaker said. "The matter is sub-judice until there is a judgment from a court." He did not rule on Mr Le Grange's request for the matter to be deleted from Hansard.

Earlier Mrs Suzman said many people were alleged to have committed suicide while being held in solitary confinement under Section Six of the Terrorism Act.

"Only the other day in the No Confidence debate the Minister of Police told this house that 'all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent a detainee from harming himself, from being harmed by

others or from committing suicide'.

"Within 48 hours of the Minister's assurance, a detainee was found hanged in his cell."

Assurance

Mrs Suzman asked Mr Le Grange whether he could give the house an assurance that inhuman and degrading methods of interrogation of detainees under Section Six were not used by the security police.

"Yes," replied the Minister from his seat.

"I ask because I want the Minister to investigate the truth of an allegation I have received about the treatment of a detainee held at John Vorster Square," Mrs Suzman said.

"It reads as follows: 'I saw him being interrogated by approximately six guys. Then some left and three remained. He was standing still, except he was naked.

Push-ups

'He was made to do push-ups — a substantial number. He was hit either with a belt or a rolled-up newspaper while doing them.

'Then he had to get up and run on the spot,

arms outstretched in front of him. Every so often he was made to lift his legs up high while running and all this was interspersed with more push-ups.

'All the while he was being interrogated the hitting with the newspaper went on, especially if his arms sagged.'"

Inhuman

"The man who was allegedly subjected to this inhuman and degrading treatment was Dr Neil Aggett," Mrs Suzman said after reading the statement.

"I ask the Minister to investigate the truth of this allegation."

Mr Le Grange replied that he would, but "the knowledge at my disposal is that that definitely can't be true".

Asked by a Government member to say where the allegation emanated from, Mrs Suzman said it was made by another detainee. — Sapa.

'NP Policy Nurtures Onslaught'

THE Official Opposition believed that for as long as the present Government was in power, the ANC's military activity would increase, Mr Harry Pitman (PFP, Pinetown) said.

Mr Pitman was reacting to a challenge by Mr Louis Nel (NP, Pretoria Central) to answer certain questions during the special debate on the Rabie Commission's report.

Mr Nel had challenged the Progressive Federal Party to state clearly whether it accepted that there was a total onslaught on South Africa, and whether the ANC stood for violent change in the country. He also wanted to know whether the PFP believed this violence of the ANC would escalate in future.

Mr Pitman said that the PFP accepted that there was an onslaught against South Africa.

"But what does the Government mean by total?" he said. The United States of America was not part of it, nor Canada, nor the United Kingdom, and in that sense it was not total, Mr Pitman said.

The PFP believed that the Government fed and nurtured this onslaught with its policies, he added.

Regarding the violent aims of the ANC he pointed out that three judges had found in 1966 that the ANC originally stood for peaceful change and did so until it was banned.

"The tragedy is of course that it not only stood for peaceful change but it was also a multi-racial body, the main reason for the breakaway by the Pan Africanist Congress," he said.

Finally, did the PFP agree that the ANC would increase its military activity?

"Of course it will while this Government

is in power," he said. Particularly if the Government was never prepared to give Blacks any participation in decision making processes.

The Opposition had no quarrel with the Rabie Commission's changes in certain definitions but objected to its attempt at overturning a Supreme Court decision giving an accused access to any statements made by him during detention when preparing his defence.

"Why does this Government not trust our judges," he asked. Was the Government prepared only to trust its magistrates, but not its judges? A district surgeon was of no use in controlling abuses.

"People have lost their lives in detention who could not be regarded as terrorists by the furthest stretch of the imagination," he said.

CAPE DETAINEES' HEALTH IS GOOD

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 82 p 1

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — The physical and mental condition of 11 Cape Town detainees was good under the circumstances, according to relatives who visited them for the first time this week, reports Sapa.

A spokesman for the Detainees' Parents' Support Committee said yesterday each detainee was allowed about half a hour visit in the presence of security policemen.

The relatives requested further visits, but the head of the Security Police in the Western Cape, Brigadier H W Kotze, said no decision had been taken. It

would have to be discussed further.

Brigadier Kotze also told the relatives it was too early to decide whether the detainees would be allowed books because they were still busy with investigations.

The detainees, who are being held under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act are Frank Anthony, Roger Galant, Benjamin Julius, Julian Sauls, Johannes Mannel, Thomas Barends, Gerrit Stellenberg, Alfred Appollis, Charles Claims, Frederick Hendricks and Lionel Scholtz.

The three detainees

receiving treatment at Johannesburg Hospital are all in a "satisfactory condition", a hospital spokesman said yesterday, reports CAS St LEGER.

The detainees, all women, have been admitted to the hospital since Dr Neil Aggett died in detention on February 4.

They are his girlfriend, Dr Liz Floyd (26), Miss Rene Roux (24), and Mrs Esther Levitan, a grandmother in her 50s.

Two other detainees are said to have been treated and released. Their names have not been disclosed.

CSO: 4700/753

FAMILIES ALLOWED TO SEE DETAINEES IN CAPE TOWN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Relatives were allowed to visit detainees in Cape Town yesterday, according to the head of Security Police in the Western Cape, Brigadier Hennie Kotze.

There would be more visits today, he said.

Asked if the detainees would be charged, Brig Kotze replied that the Security Branch was investigating only. The Attorney-General would decide whether or not they would be charged.

Mr and Mrs J E Galant, parents of Mr Roger Galant, who is being held under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, went to Caledon Square yesterday morning to visit their son and were told to return in the afternoon.

Mrs Galant said the Detainees Parents Support Group would issue a statement today after all detainees had been visited by their relatives.

Last week anxious relatives presented a memorandum to Brig Kotze asking for immediate access to their children.

The Security Police were told that the parents were disturbed at the death in detention of Dr Neil Aggett and were anxious to satisfy themselves that their children were in good health.

Detainees being held in Cape Town are Mr Gerrit Stellenberg, Mr Frank Anthony, Mr Roger Galant, Mr Benjamin Jules, Mr Lionel Scholtz, Mr Julian Sauls, Mr Johannes Manzel, Mr Thomas Barends and Mr Fred Hendricks. — Sapa.

CSO: 4700/753

SUZMAN BEGINS 30TH YEAR IN PARLIAMENTARY POLITICS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 82 p 8

[Article by Jaap Theron: "Helen Suzman, at 30-Year Milestone Recalls 'Lonely Slog'"]

[Text]

HELEN SUZMAN, for 17 years between 1959 and 1974, the lone Parliamentary representative of the former Progressive Party (PP), who has been, and still is, the favourite target of successive Nationalist ministers of justice and police because of her opposition to security legislation, and who has often been referred to by former Prime Minister John Vorster as "Auntie Helen", has entered her thirtieth year in Parliamentary politics.

Mrs Suzman, who is undoubtedly one of the most experienced opposition politicians, and as many Nationalists have discovered not one to tackle without gloves, was first elected to parliament in 1953. She and Mrs Joyce Waring, both being United Party at the time, had opposed the sitting UP representative, Mr Eric Bell, for UP party nomination.

She made it and since the 1953 parliamentary election, Mrs Suzman has represented Houghton ever since.

On Tuesday she caused an uproar in Parliament by dodging a ruling that the Aggett death in detention may not be discussed under the sub judice rule. She did so by reading a letter about the alleged

humiliation in detention of a detainee and by only at the end declaring that the detainee was Dr Neil Aggett.

Stormcloud

She flew to Johannesburg yesterday for a longstanding appointment leaving behind the cloud of a possible Select Committee action because of her Aggett stance.

Mrs Suzman — she prefers to be called Helen by all at all times — said in an interview yesterday that she has a career behind her which marked with many friendships she has made locally and all over the world and especially across the colour line.

Born in 1917, she said her parliamentary career was aided by her

prior qualifications and her being a lecturer for eight years in economic history at Wits University.

She and eleven others left the old United Party in 1959 to form the former Progressive Party (PP).

In the 1961 snap election, following on the republic-issue, the others lost their seats. She then started her solo run of 17 years in parliament.

"This was a real hard slog and I would not like to repeat it," she said.

A victory

"In the 1974 election six more colleagues joined me in the House and another two PP MP's in subsequent by-elections.

"This was the first

victory I tasted after my long lonely run," she said.

She got further comfort in 1975 when the old UP started to disintegrate and when the four former reformists joined the PP.

The Progressive Reform Party (PRP) was founded in 1975. When the UP disappeared in 1977 the PFP ranks increased to 19 and in the 1981 General Elections to 26 with a further appointed member to make the present PFP's total 27 in Parliament.

"I obviously remember most vividly the years when I was alone and when I was engaged in endless slogging in order to keep up with one contentious bill after the other.

Hectic days

"The toughest times were in the 60's when most of the security Bills were launched.

"Those were my really hectic days because I had to oppose about everything that came on the order paper," she said.

"I did not only have to speak on security matters, but I was the spokesman on all issues.

"Of course there were the few times that I actively supported the government when it took some stumbling reform steps ahead, but it was usually not on issues other than the so-called bread-and-butter issues.

"The issue perhaps most outstanding in my career was the dramatic assassination of Dr Verwoerd in the House of Assembly.

"My regular fights with John Vorster, the then Minister of Justice, remains another memory.

"Thrilling"

"I seemed to have a sort of perpetual run-

ning battle with successive Ministers of Justice and of Police of which those with Peet Pelsaer were perhaps the mildest and that with Jimmy Kruger perhaps the worst.

"The speaker I liked most was undoubtedly Henning Klopper, for he never denied me an opportunity to speak when I was still only a "one man" minority party."

Asked if she would repeat her political career if she had the opportunity, she said: "Yes, but if I were to know that I would be alone again I might hesitate."

"It was thrilling to find myself with friends after the 1974 elections and especially after a lengthy confrontation with Vorster in those lonesome years.

"It is now a pleasure to have a feeling that my party is effectively growing and that I am amongst friends and good colleagues" Mrs Suzman said.

She is married to Dr Suzman, a physician and has two daughters.

DETAILS ON, REACTION TO NP SPLIT REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 pp 1, 2, 3, 4

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — "I and those who voted against power-sharing in the National Party Parliamentary Caucus yesterday stand by the principles of the National Party and we do not intend to break away from the National Party," Dr Andries Treurnicht, said last night.

Dr Treurnicht said at a Press conference in Cape Town he rigidly stood by his standpoint, "that I was not prepared to accept a motion unconditionally supporting the Prime Minister's interpretation of policy and especially on the issue of healthy power-sharing".

He made this statement after yesterday's dramatic caucus meeting in Parliament where he and Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg, Minister of Education and Training and 20 other MPs — 18 from Transvaal and two from the Cape — voted against a motion of confidence in the Prime Minister and unqualified acceptance of the Prime Minister's interpretation of NP policies.

Qualifications

Dr Treurnicht made it clear that he was prepared to support the motion provided the Prime Minister was prepared to spell out quali-

fications requested on an issue such as power-sharing.

The Transvaal leader of the NP said he would explain his standpoint to a special Transvaal head committee meeting called for Saturday. "It will be up to the head Committee to decide on what steps are to be taken," he said.

If Saturday's meeting agrees with Dr Treurnicht and those who voted with him against the motion of confidence, the National Party will face its biggest crisis since it came to power in 1948.

Saturday's meeting will be held in the C van der Hoff Hall in Pretoria.

Dr Treurnicht yesterday said he regretted that matters in the NP caucus yesterday had taken a turn "which forced a number of MPs to vote against a motion which demanded unqualified agreement with the interpretation of policies".

"I and those mem-

bers stand by the policies of the National Party as have been accepted by its congresses. And it is not our intention to either leave the party or to split it.

No mixing

"We again accept the party's rejection of political power-sharing and of one mixed Government for Whites, Coloureds and Indians.

"We stand rigidly by political self-determination for Whites and we acknowledge the rights of self-determination of other races.

Meeting

"I have received a request from ten members (in fact 14 signed the request) that a special head committee meeting be held on Saturday at 11 am in terms of our constitution.

"I have instructed

the general secretary of the Transvaal NP, Dr Jannie Pieterse, to convene the meeting," Dr Treurnicht said.

The 22 Who Voted 'No'

CAPE TOWN. — The 22 caucus members who voted against the motion of confidence in the Prime Minister are:

Dr Andries Treurnicht, MP for Waterberg.
Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg MP for Lichtenburg.
Mr S P Barnard, MP for Langlaagte.
Mr Daan van der Merwe, MP for Rissik.
Mr Willie van der Merwe, MP for Meyerton.
Mr Kees van der Merwe, MP for Jeppe.
Mr Thomas Langley, MP for Waterkloof.
Dr Boy Geldenhuys, MP for Randfontein.
Mr Willie Lemmer, MP for Schweizer-Reneke.
Mr Ben Wilkens, MP for Ventersdorp.
Mrs Bessie Scholtz, MP for Germiston District.
Mr Spoorie van Rensburg, MP for Rosettenville.
Dr Frans van Staden, MP for Koofoespoort.
Mr Dirk Poggenpoel, MP for Beaufort West.
Mr Jan Hoon, MP for Kuruman.
Mr Louis Theunissen, an appointed MP.
Mr Casper Uys, MP for Barberton.
Mr Hannes Visagie, MP for Nigel.
Mr Frank le Roux, MP for Brakpan.
Dr Willie Snyman, MP for Pietersburg.
Mr Jan van Zyl MP for Sunnyside.
Mr Karel Swanepoel MP for Gexina.
Mr Flip Olivier MP for Fauresmith abstained.
Some other strong Treurnicht supporters like Mr Hans Schoeman, MP for Noordrand, are likely to support Dr Treurnicht, but he and several other supporters were not present at yesterday's caucus meeting.

PW: I'll Consider 2 Ministers' Future

WINDHOEK. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, said last night the Cabinet membership of the Transvaal leader of the National Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht, and the Minister of Education and Training, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg, would be considered after Mr Botha's return from South West Africa to Cape Town on Friday.

Mr Botha told a news conference at J G Strijdom Airport outside Windhoek he would like to see "as many people as possible support my

point of view and my leadership, of course.

"But I cannot force people to do so if they are not prepared to do so," the Prime Minister said in reply to a question whether he would want the two Cabinet Ministers to stay on as members of the National Party.

Asked whether there was any indication that Dr Treurnicht and Dr Hartzenberg would retain their NP membership, Mr Botha replied: "That is a question you must put

to them.

"I have the majority, the vast majority of the caucus behind me.

"I am going on with the Government and I call on all South Africans to unite and to help me, to support me and my colleagues to solve the very serious problems of Southern Africa — and we are determined to do so."

Mr Botha was asked whether it was possible to state at this stage whether Dr Treurnicht and Dr Hartzenberg would remain in the

Cabinet.

He replied: "That is a matter that will be considered when I go back to Cape Town.

"In the meantime, I have more important things to do."

Accompanied by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha; the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan; and high-ranking Government officials, he is on a two-day visit to SWA to deliberate with political leaders and members of the private sector on negotiations about the territory's future.

Ministers' Bid to Mediate

CAPE TOWN. — The two acknowledged National Party mediators, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, Minister of Transport; and Mr F W de Klerk, Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, arrived at Dr Andries Treurnicht's office yesterday minutes before a scheduled Press conference called by Dr Treurnicht.

Dr Treurnicht had called the Press to his office in the H F Verwoerd Building at 5.30.

While Pressmen were waiting outside his office, Mr Schoeman and Mr De Klerk arrived and went directly into a closed door conference with their Transvaal leader.

They emerged 30 minutes later not willing to make a statement but Mr Schoeman was heard to say: "I should actually cry."

The waiting Pressmen were then called into Dr Treurnicht's office for the delayed conference.

Mr Schoeman, who is one of the three deputy chairmen of the Transvaal National Party, last night called the happenings at yesterday's Parliamentary caucus meeting "a most bitter experience."

"I am very disappointed at what happened and I call upon everyone of those members who voted against the motion calling for unqualified support of the Prime Minister's interpretation of policy matters to sort out their problems and to return to the caucus."

He said he trusted those members would still be able to change their opinions.

Walkout Was Over Power Sharing

THE National Party's parliamentary caucus split on the issue of power-sharing, twenty two members, including Cabinet Ministers Dr Andries Treurnicht and Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, rejected any form of power-sharing.

The drama inside the caucus started when members who were against the Prime Minister's idea of power-sharing were asked to raise their hands.

I understand that more than 22 caucus members raised their hands.

Mr Fanie Botha, leader of the Assembly, then followed with a motion of full confidence and unqualified support for the Prime Minister's interpretation of NP policies.

Right to differ

Dr Treurnicht then apparently demanded the right to differ from the Prime Minister on the issue and on the basis that "healthy power-

sharing has not been party policy since all congresses accepted proposals in 1977 which explicitly rejected power-sharing."

I understand that Dr Treurnicht then left the caucus, which adjourned shortly afterwards.

At a tense and dramatic Press conference immediately afterwards, the Prime Minister indicated that the Cabinet could be reshuffled in the near future.

He said that 100 members voted for a motion of confidence in him, for which he was gratified, 22 voted against, while one abstained.

The Citizen understands that Dr Treurnicht voted against the motion before he walked out.

First signs

The first signs of the drama came when the Nat MP for Jeppe, Mr Koos van der Merwe, stormed out of the caucus meeting shortly before the end and shouted to reporters: "I am finished with the

Prog P W Botha".

Some of those who voted with Dr Treurnicht and Dr Hartzenberg against the motion met in Dr Treurnicht's office immediately after the caucus and 14 of them, in terms of the rules and regulations of the Transvaal National Party, signed a request for an urgent head committee meeting to be held within 14 days.

At the Press conference Mr Botha said lengthy discussions took place in the caucus regarding alleged differences of opinion in National Party circles.

He said various Cabinet Ministers and MPs took part in the discussions.

"I took part a number of times when I replied to speeches or questions," he said.

Support

The Premier said Mr Fanie Botha, leader of the Assembly, then moved a motion of "confidence and unqualified support for the Prime Minister for his leadership and interpretation of National

Party politics".

After he received a majority support he thanked the caucus for their trust in him.

He said he reiterated to the caucus that the Government did not have any constitutional proposals before it yet, and that he would take the envisaged proposals by the President's Council to the congresses. A referendum or referenda would be held if necessary.

"It is my intention to continue on the road (of healthy power-sharing) which I specified in my statement earlier this week.

"I call upon those who voted against the motion to reconsider their positions within the next eight days in a

positive manner and to return to the party.

"I assure them that the door to the NP remains open, but they will have to inform me before next Wednesday's caucus of their decision.

"If they return I will regard them as fully-fledged members (of the caucus) without any grudge from my side.

"But if they don't return by next Wednesday disciplinary measures will be taken."

Mr Botha said he was of the opinion that Dr Treurnicht and the other 21 were "automatically out of the NP caucus".

Protection

But the Chief Whip, Mr Van Breda, stated, however, that these men would remain under the "protection of the Whip of the NP until next week's caucus".

Asked if he was considering a Cabinet reshuffle, Mr Botha said: "I will consider the matter in time to come and only after my return from South West Africa.

"I have a lot of time and there is no reason to get ruffled about the matter now."

Asked if he thought some of the 22 members would leave the National Party, he said: "I don't think all who voted against the motion will leave."

No Power Sharing--Mulder

THE National Conservative Party would have nothing to do with any form of political power-sharing with non-Whites, the leader of the party, Dr Connie Mulder, said last night.

Dr Mulder, commenting in Pretoria on the split in National Party ranks, said no power-sharing could be healthy.

"The White Parliament should remain

unqualifiedly White and sovereign under all circumstances, this is the only way in which the Whites can secure their future.

"The party will strive for that and declare that it is prepared to co-operate with other parties and groups that agree with this to block the leftist inclinations of the Botha government."

Fight Botha Urges AOF

Action Own Future last night called for those who supported self-determination for all population groups to take a stand against the Prime

Minister, Mr P W Botha.

In a statement in Pretoria the chairman of OAF, Dr W J G Lubbe, said:

"AOF repeats its point of view that it votes for unqualified self-determination for Whites and in due course also for every other population group, with everyone eventually in his own national territory," Dr Lubbe said.

Splits That Shook SA

CAPE TOWN. — Splits in political parties in South Africa are not uncommon but yesterday's threatened split in which 23 MPs refused to give their support to a motion of confidence in the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, is the biggest potential rift since the National Party came to power 34 years ago.

It is also believed to be the biggest potential split from a governing party.

The first split came in July 1928 when 10 MPs were expelled from the Labour Party by their national council.

When the National Party and the South African Party amalgamated as the United Party, 20 members of the NP under the leadership of Dr D F Malan opted out of the coalition and remained in the NP to form the opposition.

In August/September 1941, 17 members of the governing UP left to

form the National Conservative Party. Among them was Mr Frank Waring who later became a Cabinet Minister in Dr H F Verwoerd's NP cabinet.

Five years later, in November 1959, the United Party suffered a further setback when 12 of its members broke away to form the Progressive Party under the leadership of Dr Jan Smuts.

Of the 12 only Mrs Helen Suzman was able to retain her Houghton seat in a subsequent by-election.

Of those who left with her, only three were able subsequently to return to Parliament. They were Mr Colin Eglin, who at one stage led the party; Dr Zac de Beer who shortly after his re-election resigned his seat for business reasons; and Mr Ray Swart, the present Natal leader of the Progressive Federal Party.

In 1969, Dr Albert Hertzog and three others were expelled from the National Party, forming the Herstigte Nasionale Party which, in spite of continued efforts to gain a foothold in Parliament has failed to do so.

Like the Government, the opposition continued to have difficulties within its ranks with six of its members being expelled and, under Mr Myburgh Streicher forming the South African Party and then four others under Mr Harry Schwarz who formed the Progressive Reformed Party.

These four later amalgamated with the Progressive Party to form the Progressive Federal Party.

One of the PRP members, Mr Japie Basson, was later expelled from the PFP because of his support for the President's Council which his party had totally rejected.

Kleynhans Sees End of Third

THE end of the third National Party has now come, according to Prof Willem Kleynhans, a SA political expert and professor of Political Science at Unisa.

Prof Kleynhans said the first NP had operated under the Hertzog/Malan leadership from 1914 until 1934. Then the Gesuiwerde Nats became the official opposition under Dr Malan. From 1948 till now the NP governed the country.

"But this is the end of the road for the NP as we have known it since

1948," Prof Kleynhans said.

Within the next six months a referendum should be called by the Prime Minister. The mandate which he got at the last election was now irrelevant and useless, he said.

"PW should now get back to the voters of this country and spell out his programme of principles. It was not done at the last general election because everything had to take second place to party unity. It was an artificial election," Prof Kleynhans said from his home in Pretoria.

If Dr Andries Treurnicht were to form his own party, Prof Kleynhans predicted that Mr P W Botha would have to fight a very tough election on the platteland.

"He will then have to measure his strength against Mr Jaap Marais Herstigte Nasionale Party and the possible Treurnicht party. He felt that the Prime Minister would then have to take third place.

Dr Connie Mulder did not have a great chance of strengthening his own hand with yester-

day's NP split, in Prof Kleynhans' opinion. Mr John Vorster, who was still taking a deep interest in political events, might have a far better deal if he were to make a comeback.

Prof Kleynhans predicted that the NP would now disband and that some sort of marriage with splinter groups such as the NKP (Dr Connie Mulder's Konserwatiewe Party) the AET (Aksie Eie Toekoms) and AWB (Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging) might be formed.

He felt the split could only be beneficial to South Africa's politics because the NP would now have to spell out its programme of political principles.

NATIONAL Party unity had been destroyed and South African politics has entered "a totally new phase" the leader of the official Opposition, Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Dr Slabbert, who arrived in Johannesburg from Cape Town to address a PFP municipal election meeting last night, was commenting on the NP caucus meeting in Cape Town yesterday when 22 NP members of Parliament voted against the motion of confidence in Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha.

"I am not fully aware of all the facts as yet. I

left Cape Town almost as soon as the caucus meeting was over," Dr Slabbert said.

"It seems to me the votes of no confidence in the Prime Minister clearly demarcates the rift in the National Party. What happened was an irreversible action."

South African politics had now entered a "totally new phase" Dr Slabbert said and the effects of future developments would have a profound influence on the future course of South African politics.

Asked whether the conservative leader of the National Party in the Transvaal, Dr Andries Treurnicht, was in fact planning a Rightwing breakaway from the ruling party, the PFP leader said:

"He has not clearly indicated which way he is going."

Asked whether the PFP would consider a pact with the New Republic Party in order to remain the official Opposition, should Dr Treurnicht and his followers break away, Dr Slabbert said: "Not at all costs, we will have to wait and see what happens".

If Dr Treurnicht should break away, Dr Slabbert said, the Prime Minister would have to plump for "real reform".

"The worst thing Mr Botha could do would be to adopt a middle of the road attitude to reform, alienating his verligte wing after the Rightwing has already broken away."

Jaap Hopes Someone Will Join Him

SEVERAL of the rebel National Party MPs who voted against the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday, may join the Herstigte Nasionale Party.

The leader of the HNP, Mr Jaap Marais, told The Citizen he had already spoken to one of the MPs but "nothing has been discussed yet. I am confident, however, that some of them will join my party."

Although Mr Marais said the threatened split in the NP had been expected, "The possibility of the 22 MPs returning to the fold was very remote because the lines have been drawn too deeply and distinctly." He was not sure what

they were all going to do.

"It depends on Dr Treurnicht. He can form his own party or he can resign his Cabinet post and seat in Parliament and leave public life."

"If he goes into opposition, he will be vulnerable because he has gone along with a lot of Mr Botha's views and it will be difficult for him now to take a stand."

"I would, therefore, not be surprised to see him leave public life," Mr Marais said.

The effect of the split on the NP in the municipal elections would be considerable and if the HNP did well, "our attractiveness will be enhanced for other Nat MPs. We are the established political home for

Mr Marais pointed out that there were still 19 Nat MPs unaccounted for. These could well support Dr Treurnicht.

"As it is, they only need six more to become the official opposition if Dr Treurnicht is prepared to go into opposition."

"They can kick him out of the caucus, but who is going to kick him out of the Transvaal? If he calls a congress now, he would have the majority there."

"This could lead to the totally incongruous position of the NP in the Transvaal being the official opposition to the National Party in Parliament," Mr Marais said.

'Stand Up and Be Counted'

A CALL has been made for National Party candidates in the March 3 municipal elections to state publicly whether they support the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, or the leader of the NP in the Transvaal, Dr Andries Treurnicht.

Mr Douglas Gibson, chairman of the Progressive Federal Party in the Southern Transvaal and leader of the PFP in the Provincial Council, said yesterday all NP candidates in Johannesburg and Randburg owed it to the public to state openly whom they supported.

He was commenting on the split in the NP ranks after 22 MPs of the party had refused to back a motion of confidence in the Prime Minister.

"The PFP believes that a vote for the Nats in the Transvaal is a vote for Dr Treurnicht. Any candidate who ducks this challenge will be regarded as a Treurnicht supporter," Mr Gibson said.

Mr Gibson said that the events in Cape Town could make a change in the government of the Transvaal Provincial Council "an interesting possibility".

It would be "most interesting" to see the new political line-up in the TPC," he said. "I believe that the majority of the members of the Executive Committee are PW supporters but that the majority of the NP MPCs lean towards Dr Treurnicht."

Power Sharing a Realistic Policy--Eglin

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Government under the premiership of Mr P W Botha was moving progressively away from previous National Party policies of hard and fast division of power to a realistic policy of power sharing, Mr Colin Eglin (PFP, Sea Point) said yesterday.

He was speaking in the debate on the second reading of the Part Appropriation Bill after an announcement earlier yesterday that 22 members of the NP parliamentary caucus had voted at a caucus meeting against a motion of confidence in Mr Botha and his leadership.

Mr Eglin said now was a time of political ferment and the issues went far beyond the personalities of Mr Botha and the Trans-

vaal leader of the National Party, the Minister of State Administration, Dr Andries Treurnicht, who walked out of the caucus meeting and did not cast a vote.

"A fascinating political scene is unfolding before us," Mr Eglin said. "We see the NP as we have known it being ground quite relentlessly between its long-standing commitment to the ideology of apartheid or separate development and the practical realities and needs of a modern, multi-racial South Africa."

"We see the Prime Minister with a sense of realism bowing before the inexorable forces of change and the Minister of State Administration trying to resist them."

The ferment was still at an early stage and it would continue with tensions, statements, explorations and per-

haps even splits and regroupings.

"But I predict that the irresistible demands of a modern, multi-racial South Africa are going to grind into dust the outdated Verwoerdian dogma or the National Party."

Mr Eglin said it was ironic that the Coloured people, a voteless group, should be the trigger for the ferment in the National Party.

It appeared that Mr Botha had a message concerning the key issue of political rights and power sharing.

"This is that the NP, whether it likes it or not, must change away from the philosophy propounded by Strydom, Verwoerd and Vorster if there is to be any hope of political co-operation and stability in South Africa."

It appeared that Mr Botha had decided on his

own strategy and that only he and perhaps also his chief lieutenant, Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Internal Affairs, knew exactly what this was.

"But what is obvious to even outside observers is that every statement by the Prime Minister and his chief lieutenant on political rights and power sharing takes the National Party a step further away from separate development and self-determination and a step closer to joint decision-making and power sharing."

This became clear from analysis of some of the Prime Minister's statements during recent, past months.

Mr Botha some time ago had stated that White self-determination was all important. More recently he had said that while this remained the Government's point of

reference, the term self-determination was relative rather than absolute.

Mr Botha had initially proposed a separate, sovereign parliament for the Coloured people and had rejected the idea of a unitary state. He now said there could be only one single government authority in the country which, Mr Eglin said, was half way to accepting a

unitary state.

"We are seeing a progressive move away from division of power to power sharing."

This had been foreshadowed by the gradual shift to normalisation of sport and labour relations.

The shift to power sharing would also have to include the Asian people and, eventually, at least the urban portion of the Black population.

Don't Invite Them Back Says Raw

THE leader of the New Republic Party, Mr Vause Raw, welcomed what he called the Government's new unequivocal commitment to power sharing.

The Prime Minister's decision on power sharing was a fundamental departure from "old apartheid thinking" and fundamental to the building of a new road and future for South Africa, he said.

In an obvious reference to the events in the National Party's caucus yesterday, Mr Raw said: "I am glad it happened. It is an historic day, a breakthrough with momentous consequences for South Africa.

"I am glad it happened. My advice to the Prime Minister and his colleagues is not to invite them back.

"There is no way in which the fundamental differences can be papered over. The party cannot become the cohesive unit it has to be and do what it has to do."

The member for Innesdale (Mr Albert Nothnagel) had felt the occasion and Mr Raw said he knew how it hurt as he had lived through such events three times.

"It hurts," he said.

"I say let them go. To

bring them back will paralyse that party.

"I hope the process which started today will be a real process to start South Africa into a new era.

"I believe it is more than the end of an old chapter. It opens the book to a new chapter which will reveal much of the content and form of what lies ahead for South Africa.

"We in the NRP will watch closely what form the new start takes."

The NRP had gone through "hell and high water" because it believed that the present political divisions were unnatural and because it believed it had a role to hold moderates together.

The test for the National Party was whether this exercise was merely the cutting out of an ulcer or the real cure of an illness and the start of a new healthy approach.

It was not enough to cut out and excise a sore. The party had to make sure its body was free of the disease of obsession with old style apartheid and that there was acceptance of the new ideas and thinking some members of the National party were already committed to.

Mr Raw committed

his party to playing its part in influencing the course that South Africa should take.

Much had been said in recent days on the terms self determination, power sharing and the division of power.

"We welcome the fact that the Government is now unequivocally committed to power sharing. We agree and support that view."

The NRP saw as a non-negotiable programme for South Africa the maintenance of self-determination of each community when it came to the decisions affecting its intimate affairs.

He agreed with the Prime Minister that when it came to common matters self-determination became relative.

The NRP believed that the right of each community to take its own decisions regarding its residential areas, its character and administration was absolute.

The party believed in joint decision making in matters of common interest which affected all communities.

"There must be negotiation, debate and compromise between all groups. That is the bottom line from where one achieves the details."

Not a Day of Festivity for the NP

TODAY'S developments were "a tragic drama" that had struck the National Party, Mr A E Nothnagel (NP, Innesdal), said. It would be hypocrisy on the part of any Government member to claim otherwise.

"Today is not a day of festivity for the National Party. If I am to say to you today that I am happy about what has happened, I will be a hypocrite."

The party might have received a severe blow, but on behalf of his col-

leagues he wished to express the hope that, on the road ahead, they could once again grasp one another's hands.

To the right of the NP there was darkness. Any Nationalist MP who left the party would never return to parliament.

The Herstigte Nasionale Party was harming race relations and it would be tragic if the impression was created internally that it was capable of winning a seat in parliament.

Nat Crisis

DIFFERENCES within the National Party have come to a head, resulting in 22 members of the Parliamentary caucus voting against a motion of confidence in the Prime Minister and one abstaining.

Among those who did not support the Prime Minister was the leader of the party in the Transvaal and Minister of State Administration, Dr Andries Treurnicht, and the Minister of Education and Training, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg.

The action of the 22 reflects the anxiety among conservative members of the party over suggestions that there can only be one Parliament representing Whites, Indians and Coloureds and the Prime Minister's statement in which he refers to "healthy power sharing".

When the matter was put to the caucus, some members did not agree with this interpretation of policy by the Prime Minister, though most of the Nationalist MPs appeared to have done so.

The matter then became a test of confidence in the Prime Minister — and it was then that the 22 voted against him, with another abstaining, while the balance — a hundred — voted for the motion.

It was put by the senior Cabinet Minister and Leader of the House, Mr Fanie Botha, and asked not only for full confidence in the Prime Minister, but for support for the way in which he was interpreting National Party policy.

Left door open

In normal circumstances, the refusal of the 22 to accept the motion could be regarded as the end of the matter.

However, the Prime Minister left the door open for the 22 to return, without "rancour", giving them until next Wednesday to reconsider their position.

If they failed then to support the motion, disciplinary action would be taken against them.

In the meantime the Transvaal head committee of the party has been summoned to meet on Saturday to discuss the matter.

That meeting will be decisive not only for the 22, but for the party in the Transvaal as well, since if attempts at reconciliation fail, the meeting will determine who controls the Transvaal party.

There will be people who will say that the threatened break was inevitable and that it will clarify both the direction and policy of the party.

One wing of the party has been saying forward, the other has been saying halt.

To the extent that no decisive movement was possible, it will be argued that the party, with the 100 MPs who gave the Prime Minister their full support, will be able to pursue a policy of reform without being held back by the Right.

However, this threatened break is not just

a matter that concerns the party.
The unity of Afrikanerdom is also at stake.

This unity was breached in the last election by the swing of dissident Nationalists to the Herstigte Nasionale Party.

Nevertheless, the National Party was still returned to power with an overwhelming majority, so much so that it can continue to rule comfortably without the 22.

But if the split is confirmed, then not only the power of the National Party will be fractured, but also the power of Afrikaanderdom.

Heal breach?

There will consequently be strong efforts to heal the breach, since so much is at stake for the party and the volk.

The next few days will determine the future of both.

Although this paper is not a Nationalist medium, it has always believed that a strong government is essential in the troubled and dangerous time in which we live.

We do not wish to take sides in the dispute, but we hope that whatever happens, the Government will remain strong, able and willing to take the country in the direction that is vital for its survival.

CSO: 4700/815

COURT HEARS OF 'FRONT' FOR ANC PLAN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 5

[Text]

DURBAN. — A Durban Regional Court magistrate today heard that the Africa Youth Council — allegedly a "front" for the banned African National Congress — planned to write to self-exiled ANC members and ANC members imprisoned on Robben Island, to ask for financial aid.

Mr Bhefika Samson Ngobese (56) of Maqongqo, Kwamashu, was giving evidence before Mr H S van der

Walt at the trial of three alleged members of the ANC charged on two counts of contravening the Terrorism Act.

Mr Fana George Sithole of Umlazi, Mr Janulani Wilfred Ngcobo of Umlazi, and Mr Titi Alocia Mtenyane of Soweto have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Mr Sithole has also pleaded not guilty to 15 counts of contravening his banning order.

Mr Ngobese told the magistrate a meeting was held in Johannesburg to elect Mr Philip Matthews as national president of the AYC.

At the meeting, Mr

Matthews said he was to write to the banned self-exiled Mr Oliver Tambo, about the AYC. He thought Mr Tambo would give the AYC financial help.

"Mr Mtenyane said a reply would be recognition from the ANC and they would know the AYC is one with them," Mr Ngobese said.

He also alleged that Mr Mtenyane said: "We would be a front for the ANC."

Letters were also to be written to Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr Walter Sisulu on Robben Island.

Later Mr Sithole and Mr Nhlanha Ntuli visi-

ted Mr Ngobese at his home. Mr Ngobese told the court that when he asked whether the AYC had a constitution, Mr Sithole told him the AYC had no constitution because it had the Freedom Charter.

"Mr Sithole told me the AYC was formed so that security branch members would perhaps ignore it because they would think it is something for the children."

The AYC would deceive the SB by that name — otherwise our aim is to work hand-in-hand with the ANC," he said.

BANKS FREE TO SET OWN LENDING RATES

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 19

[Article by Daan De Kock]

[Text]

THE abolition of the link between Bank Rate and the prime lending rates of commercial banks, announced yesterday by the Governor of the South African Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, was widely welcomed yesterday by the banking community in Johannesburg.

It is generally expected that banks will move up their prime lending rates as soon as possible, although some experts don't think the rates will go as high as 20 percent — the maximum allowed by law.

Understanding

Announcing the abolition in Pretoria, Dr De Kock pointed out that there was in the past an understanding between the Reserve Bank and the commercial banks that the prime overdraft rate had to be maintained within a range of between 2,5 percent and 3,5 percent above the bank rate.

In the future, each bank will now be free to determine its own prime overdraft rate in response to market forces, subject only to the influence of broad official monetary policy

and maximum rates of interest rates laid down under the Limitation and Disclosure of Finance Charges Act (Ladofca).

Rate

Dr De Kock pointed out that the present Bank Rate of 13,5 percent and all the Ladofca rates, including the maximum rate of 20 percent on all overdrafts of more than R5 000, would remain unchanged.

He said it was, however, expected that the clearing banks would find it necessary in the present circumstances to raise their prime overdraft rate from the present level of 17 percent to 18 percent or higher.

Arrie van Vliet, general manager of Nedbank, said yesterday he welcomed the step. Although he agreed that the banks would increase their prime lending rates, he saw this happening over a couple of months rather than immediately.

He said one of the effects of the new system would be to increase competition between banks.

The managing director of Barclays National Bank, Bob Aldworth, said the ending of the link would create a much more effective and realistic money market in the country.

He expected a rise in the prime lending rates of 17 percent to 19 percent, but added he would be surprised to see the level rise to the maximum of 20 percent allowed under the country's recently changed Usury Act.

Pace

He said the commercial banks would now be able to set the pace in the market and bank Rate's role would become almost insignificant.

Here the Governor of the Reserve Bank agreed with him. He said in his statement: "They also imply a further diminution of the role of the Bank Rate and its replacement by more modern banking techniques of money market intervention."

He also pointed out that the most appropriate future role for Bank Rate under South African conditions was being considered by the commission of inquiry into the monetary system and monetary policy.

Further changes in

this regard could be expected after the commission's final report had been submitted, Dr De Kock said.

Other banking sources told Reuters the step should increase competition in the market and allow commercial banks to

charge more competitive rates.

They pointed out that in the past few months Bank Rate had borne no relation to the state of the market.

Announcing the change yesterday, Dr De Kock also said we could expect a "severe"

money market shortage this month.

He said although the Reserve Bank stood ready to provide the required financial accommodation to discount houses and, if necessary, also directly to banks, it intended to do so at penalty rates

CSO: 4700/753

DTA SPLIT SEEN HELPING SWAPO IN ELECTION

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] MR PIK BOTHA says that independence will come to South West Africa within 18 months to three years — "unless something unforeseen happens."

Yet, with the virtual certainty of UN-supervised elections that will decide the country's future, the ruling Democratic Turnhalle Alliance splits.

If Swapo had a great chance of winning the election before, it will be almost a certainty to win now.

The reason: About half of the population of the territory are Ovambo-speaking.

Swapo finds its biggest support among them.

The DTA, united, could give Swapo strong opposition.

The DTA, divided, cannot hope to do so.

Of course, by breaking away now, Mr Peter Kalangula, who leads the Ovambo-based Namibia Democratic Party, has a chance of gaining support by demonstrating that he is (a) independent of the DTA and (b) running a party opposed to any form of ethnicity, the greatest bugbear of the election.

The DTA was composed of 11 parties, each representing one of the ethnic groups in the territory.

Mr Kalangula says that the NDP feels that support, especially from the Ovambo-speaking people, will not be forthcoming "if we fight this election as an ethnically divided party."

The split has been coming since last year when Mr Kalangula began pressing the DTA to become a single political party.

Ethnicity, he says, is a concept fast developing the stigma of the old apartheid order.

He believes the issue of ethnicity will be exploited by Swapo and become a primary political weapon against the DTA in a UN-supervised election.

The system, he and his supporters feel, is protected by the White second-tier authority dominated by the SWA national Party.

Mr Kalangula wants to scrap the interim constitution which established the ethnic authorities.

He argues that the DTA has united people of all ethnic groups, but has not merged into one to promote that unity.

On the other hand, Mr Dirk Mudge, the chairman of the DTA, has been opposed to the idea of turning the alliance into one political party, believing that it has proved it can unite South West Africa's inhabitants and continue building on this success.

But the withdrawal of the NDP will not improve the DTA's prospects or the chances of unity.

His own response to Mr Kalangula's defection is that it is a tragedy and will polarise north and south.

And that is exactly what it will do.

Meanwhile, Mr Mudge himself has had problems with Pretoria, which seems to be lukewarm in its support of the DTA, perhaps for fear of offending South West Africa's Nationalists.

The DTA has claimed that its efforts to bring about change in the territory have been thwarted by the interim constitution, Proclamation AG8, providing for second-tier ethnic representative authorities.

DTA members allege that the South West African National Party, the dominant group in the White authority, has used AG8 to sabotage the central government's policy.

Mr Mudge, towards the end of last year, reported growing impatience with South Africa over delays in amending AG8.

You can see what is going to happen in an UN-supervised election.

Swapo will come in as liberators who will get rid of the Whites and run the territory by and for the Blacks.

The White Nationalists will fight for the retention of the remaining forms of apartheid and this, in turn, will drive more and more Blacks into the Swapo camp.

The DTA, having lost one of its major parties, will not be able to put up a united front against Swapo.

Who is likely to win as a result of all this? Need you guess.

Sam Nujoma is laughing all the way from Angola to Moscow and back, because his opponents in South West Africa are playing into his hands.

CSO: 4700/753

SWAPO CLAIMS OF DOWNING AIRCRAFT DENIED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

LISBON. — The South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo) said yesterday its guerrillas had shot down a South African fighter and a helicopter and "put out of combat" 360 South African soldiers in SWA.

The official Angolan news agency, Angop, quoted a communique issued by Swapo in Luanda as saying the pilot of a South African Impala Mark II fighter died when his plane was brought down during a bombing raid on Okankolo, some 75 km east of Ondangwa, on January 5.

The Swapo communique said the guerrillas of the organisation's armed wing had captured a South African soldier and put another 360 "out of combat" in various operations in SWA last month.

The Angop report gave no details of how the helicopter was destroyed, but said Swapo had also claimed the destruction of an armoured personnel carrier, 55 trucks, 25 tractors and two other vehicles.

Swapo, which is fighting for the independence of SWA from Pretoria, said that in the ambush on a South

African army patrol in the Outapi district, some 100 km north-east of Oshakati, last month, five South African soldiers were killed and many wounded. Angop did not report any Swapo casualties.

"As a consequence of this clash, a considerable amount of war material was captured from the enemy, including two South African ground-to-air communication systems to direct air attacks, a 40-millimetre grenade launcher, a flare pistol, an FN rifle and a pair of binoculars," Angop said.

...But SADF Denies Claim

Commenting on the Angop report, a spokesman for the SA Defence force said in Pretoria it was a "Farfetched mixture of lies and distortions".

"It is known that the Russian puppet organisation, SWAPO, is hard-pressed by its masters in Moscow to show results in the war in South West Africa. They have failed lamentably".

"The facts speak for themselves. In spite of having lost nearly 2 000 terrorists in combat last

year, they do not even control one square centimetre of SWA soil".

"It is obvious that this farfetched mixture of lies and distortions is aimed at pacifying their masters, who have to foot the bill for replacing the thousands of tons of weapons and ammunition seized by the SA Defence force during operations last year".

CSO: 4700/753

PRESIDENT OF TENNIS UNION CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST DENMARK

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 1

[Article by Mervyn Orchard]

[Text] Mr Justice Blen Franklin, South African Tennis Union president, last night called for "strong action" against Denmark if its Government went ahead with a new threat to bar three South Africans from the Danish indoor championships from March 1-7.

"If the Men's International Professional Tennis Council allows this, it is going to lose a lot of credibility," Mr Justice Franklin said.

According to a Sapa-Associated Press report from Copenhagen yesterday, the Danish Government intends standing firm on its original decision to bar Kevin Curren, Andrew Pattison and Bernie Mitton from the Danish tournament, which has Grand Prix status.

The report followed a previous one in which Palle Christiansen, tournament organiser of the Copenhagen event, told Foreign Minister Mr Kjeld Olesen that the three South Africans lived in America and that they possessed "green cards"--documents showing US resident alien status which could indicate that their bearers intended seeking US citizenship.

"This 'green card' affair, and living in America, is just a red herring," Mr Justice Franklin said yesterday.

"All three players are ranked in South Africa, they are regarded by us as South Africans and this applies in the rest of the world too.

"They are all professionals earning their living by playing tennis and if the Men's Pro Council allows Denmark to get away with this, then they are going to lose a lot of credibility."

Mr Justice Franklin expressed regret "to see this happen".

"We and the Danish Tennis Federation have always been on good terms, they have always stood by us and often spoken up on South Africa's behalf, when expulsion motions by communist countries have been introduced into International Tennis Federation meetings, he said.

CSO: 4700/753

FIRM PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT BANK ON WAY

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 82 p 4

[Text] A special committee appointed to investigate the establishment of the Development Bank for Southern Africa would submit firm proposals on the outstanding issues as soon as possible after the end of this month, Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha said.

Replying to questions by Mr Harry Schwarz (PFP Yeoville), Mr Botha said the bank was taking more time to take shape than was originally expected because:

--An altogether new international, non-political field was being entered, and rather than set about things over-hastily, preparatory steps had to be completed properly;

--The process of discussions and mutual consultation could not be disposed of over a short period; and

--Consultation with the private sector and overseas organisations, which would be indispensable in execution and finance, had to be completed first.

"However, the Government attaches great importance to the formation of the bank and a sum of R17-million has already been voted for this purpose.

"The process of consultation and negotiation is continuing and a special committee on which both the private and public sector are represented, has been appointed Mr Botha said.

CSO: 4700/753

DETAILS ON COFFEE PRODUCTION GIVEN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 8

[Text]

SOUTH Africa is well on her way to independence in the production of "Boere-troos" — coffee — but is still far from independence in producing basic coffee cultivars.

Mr John Rushton, chairman of the National Coffee Committee of the SA Agricultural Union, said yesterday research was urgently needed into the production of the right cultivars — the base of coffee production — in South Africa.

While production was increasing, the actual most popular cultivar — robusta — could not yet be produced in this country.

This cultivar made up about 75 percent of all coffee consumption in the Republic, but the country still had to import about 11 000

tons each year.

About 1 800 tons of the arabica cultivar still had to be imported as well, as opposed to local production of about 500 tons.

Because of their particular characteristics and the taste of coffee drinkers, neither cultivar could be used to supplement the others.

"The only solution is for us to produce our own robusta cultivar," said Mr Rushton.

Research into production of the cultivar was being done by the citrus and sub-tropical research station at Nelspruit, but it must be stepped up.

The committee itself had decided to undertake certain research into aspects of production, marketing and distribution he said.

CSO: 4700/815

DUTCH WINE BOYCOTT A TOTAL FLOP

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 12

[Text]

THE boycott organised by the anti-apartheid group in the Netherlands against South African wines being sold in the country has been a total flop.

The campaign, which was accompanied by much Press publicity in the Dutch newspapers, the majority of whom are hostile to South Africa, was mounted about two weeks ago in major centres like Amsterdam, Rotterdam and The Hague.

Several large chain stores and supermarkets which were selling South African wines were picketed by members of the anti-apartheid group. They carried banners and placards denouncing firms selling South African wines.

On the placards were slogans like "you are

supporting the suppression of thousands of Africans" and "your support is keeping a racist government in power."

According to one of the biggest wine wholesalers in Amsterdam, the boycott has been a total flop. He told The Citizen this week people were still buying South African wines because of its excellent quality. His customers just simply ignored the placard carriers.

He said he had received numerous letters from the anti-South African bloc in the Netherlands in the past six months urging him not to sell any South African products. He had ignored their appeals because he and other businessmen he had spoken to felt strongly that the general public had the right to buy the best products.

CSO: 4700/815

PORTUGUESE COMMERCE OFFICIAL ON TRADE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 12

[Text]

NO COUNTRY can afford to close its doors to South Africa, warned the president of the recently Established Portuguese/South African Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Mr A J Neto, at the week-end.

Mr Neto was speaking in Pretoria at the end of a week-long visit to the Republic with the chamber's chief secretary, Mr E Santos, during which negotiations were held with South African Government officials and businessmen.

"Various businessmen in Portugal have already given notice of their preparedness to make vast sums available to improve trade between the two countries," said the president of the chamber, which already has a membership of 140 companies — four months after being established.

At present, trade between the two countries exceeds R60-million a year, with the balance tipped slightly in South Africa's favour, particularly in the export of coal to Portugal.

Mr Santos said Russia could be expected to suspend its gold sales on the world market within the next 18 months, which would result in the price of the precious metal soaring to unprecedented heights. This would benefit countries with good trade relations with South Africa.

While the Portuguese/South African Chamber of Commerce and Industries has not yet established a local office, Asocom is in a position to provide further information about the chamber.

CSO: 4700/753

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND ORDER CREATED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 3

[Article by Jaap Theron]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — Mr Louis le Grange, the present Minister of Police, has been appointed Minister of Law and Order in a new department of which the administration is to be headed by the Commissioner of Police, the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, announced yesterday.

Mr Botha, who opened the special three-hour debate in Parliament on the report of the Rabie Commission on Security Legislation, also said a Directorate for Security Legislation, headed by a director, was to be established in terms of the recommendations of the commission.

The South African Police would resort under the new Department of Law and Order.

The Prime Minister announced at the outset of the debate that the Government had accepted in principle the proposals of the Rabie Commission.

The commission's proposals in regard to the offences which the recommended should be substituted for offences specified in present security legislation were accepted in principle.

"The proposals in regard to preventive security action, the detention of persons for interrogation, the detention of certain persons as State witnesses and the refusal of bail to accused persons in certain cases are accepted in principle.

"The commission's proposals in regard to the safe-guarding of information, intimidation and the other legislation recommended by it are also accepted in principle.

"As far as the combating of terrorism is concerned there is an agreement between the South African Police and South African Defence Force as determined by the Prime Minister from time to time.

"As far as the collection, evaluation and interpretation of security information is concerned there are also procedures which have been agreed upon by the National Intelligence Service, the Security Police and Military Intelligence, as approved by the Prime Minister.

"The detail, practical implementation and final formulation of legislation arising from the acceptance of the abovementioned broad principles will be dealt with as soon as the comments of interested parties have been received in the near future," Mr Botha said.

CSO: 4700/753

DETAILS ON 'STORMY EDUCATION FRONT' GIVEN

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 11

[Article by Keith Abendroth: "Prepare to Pay for Education-Warning"]

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICANS — and particularly White South Africans were warned yesterday that they would have to dig into their pockets to pay, or at least pay more, for their children's education.

Mr M L Visagie, Deputy-Director-General of National Education, said in Pretoria that the "Financial implications" would have to be realised by the citizens if the State were to make good its undertaking of equal education for all.

"As realistic and sober thinking education people, we must realise the financial im-

plications involved and understand it — without emotion or political motivation — to be able to get the message through to parents and society," he said.

Opening a conference of the department's principles and heads of educational institutions, Mr Visagie said the Government had committed itself to the provision of equal educational opportunities for all South Africans.

This was a very important and far-reaching decision. But the financial implications must be understood.

It was estimated that it would cost South Africa an astronomical R5 000 and R6 000 million a year if it were im-

mediately to provide equal educational opportunities.

Comparatively, education costs in America had skyrocketed by 154 percent in the past 10 years, and that country's Treasury had made it clear that it could no longer afford its education system.

South Africa — with her shortage of nearly R4 000 million on current account, and the teacher shortage — could simply not afford to put the plan into action immediately.

Report is a 'Hot Potato'

A MASSIVE volume — completed under Cabinet pressure in record time by the country's top academic and education researchers — is to become the hot potato issue of the year in the South African educational scene.

The comprehensive report and recommendations of the special Human Sciences Re-

search Council commission asked by the State to investigate the South African educational scene is already on its way to becoming probably the most controversial document ever in South African education history.

Opinions have been expressed on some controversial aspects of the report.

But few people really

know what it entails — except for the powerfully motivated recommendations on equal education for all South Africans, regardless of race or creed.

And to many elements on the conservative side of education the real fear is that the report will be the "thin end of the wedge" to soften the national call for integrated educa-

1500

The council's W H Engelbrecht, explaining the report, warns particularly that its implementation could see White parents particularly digging into their pockets for their children's education.

But what does the report propose?

The first and most important recommendation is the establishment of one Minister of

Education and one Department of Education at a national level.

Reasons are to bring about the necessary co-ordination on all facets of education dispensation when one Minister and one department decide on behalf of all concerned on matters such as finances, building norms and educational standards."

The report stresses that there must be

equal educational opportunities for all South Africans — that there should be parity for all people in educational standards.

"In the first place therefore educational opportunities mean an educational dispensation in which no one can complain of unjust treatment on the basis of race, colour, creed or sex."

Flexible or Verkramp: Youths' Future Probe

THE SCENE is set for the first of two vital conferences on South Africa's stormy education front — two conferences which, education sources say, could make or break the future of the country educationally.

Top educationists in Pretoria say that the conferences — the first in Pretoria at the end of this week, and the second in Bloemfontein next month — will lay the ground for many years to come whether education will be streamlined to back up the outward racial views of the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, or become ensnared in conservative doldrums.

The first conference will be attended by nearly 1 000 of the Transvaal's top education figures, ranging from

teachers to academics and leaders in the parent-teacher field. It will be held in Pretoria on Friday and Saturday.

What is decided at this conference, to be held behind locked doors, will set the tone and direction for the critical national conference on the Human Sciences Research Council report and blue print on education in Bloemfontein on March 18 and 19.

This conference will be held under the auspices of the traditionally Rightwing Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenigings.

Called the "Afrikaner Volkskongres," it is expected that the main issues at stake at the conference will be the council's far-reaching recommendations on Black education and what it calls more "flexibility" in education in South Africa.

Conservative education sources believe that the recommendations of the report could lead eventually to racial integration on the education front — and fears have been expressed that Rightwing party political interests will seize the conferences as a chance to make political capital.

A spokesman for the FAK said it was hoped that the conference would be "a truly Afrikaner occasion — particularly because the Human Sciences Research Council's recommendations have such a direct influence on the education and training, and thus the future of all children.

"We hope for the wholehearted support of all Afrikaners at this conference as the future of the Afrikaner in education will be under the spotlight."

CSO: 4700/753

KWAZULU CABINET UPSET OVER DOG NAME INCIDENTS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 13

[Article by Tim Clarke: "Kwazulu Cabinet in Dog Furor "]

[Text]

DURBAN. — The KwaZulu Cabinet and Inkatha, the Zulu political and cultural organisation, have requested that Ingwavuma, in Zululand, should fall under the Kwazulu police jurisdiction after it is alleged that a black police dog was called "Gatsha Buthelezi," in the Ingwavuma district.

The Zulu Cabinet is so incensed about the incident, alleged to have taken place in public in an Ingwavuma store that it has asked for a meeting with the Minister of Police, Mr Louis le Grange, to discuss the matter. The Cabinet is also incensed that the dog was shot and says that this in no way removes a slur on the Chief Minister.

The row started when the people of Ingwavuma claimed to have heard a White policeman stationed in the district call his black dog by the Black

leader's name in a local store. He is alleged to have said to the dog "come on Gatsha Buthelezi."

Immediately after he was heard several people signed affidavits and reported the incident to the Zulu Cabinet at Ulundi, and the head committee of Inkatha.

Last week Chief Buthelezi led a delegation to see Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Co-operation and Development. At the meeting Dr Koornhof reportedly told the delegation that he had been informed that the matter was now closed, because the dog had been shot.

The delegation then queried why the dog had been shot and asked why no action had been taken against the policeman involved. Dr Koornhof is reported to have replied that the dog was shot because there was something wrong with it.

Chief Buthelezi was not available for comment yesterday, but

several other members of the Inkatha executive said they were "disgusted" over the incident. They said they felt strongly that Mr Le Grange should publicly apologize for the slur against Chief Buthelezi, who was doing his best to promote good race relations.

This is the third incident of its type to occur in KwaZulu in the last three years.

The first was when a White farmer was hauled before the Head Committee of Inkatha for calling his dog after Chief Buthelezi. He publicly apologized and renamed his dog.

In the second incident a White official was transferred away from KwaZulu within 24 hours. It was discovered that he had named his dog after the leader of the KwaZulu nation.

TRIAL OF WITWATERSRAND STUDENTS CONTINUES

Woman Chaperoned

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 3

[Text]

SPECIAL arrangements are made to ensure that women detained under Section 22 of the General Laws Amendment Act are not left unchaperoned with security men from the time of their arrest to their transfer to cells, a Johannesburg Regional Court heard yesterday where a woman and three men are appearing on charges of participating in communist activities.

It was stated in court that a second person was present when the woman detainee was interrogated. The witness was Detective/Sergeant Anita Meyer.

She was giving evidence on the sixth day of the trial of Miss Elaine Rose Mohamed (20), Mr Benjamin Greyling (20), Mr Michael O'Donovan (21) and Mr Leslie Lax (23).

They had denied charges of manufacturing, distributing posters to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the South African Communist Party.

More fun

The admissibility of statements made by the accused is being disputed by their legal team, claiming that in

the instance of Miss Mohamed she eventually wrote out her statements while under Section Six of the Terrorism Act 14, days after her arrest on August 11.

Defence claims Section Six was used as a means to terrorise her, submitting that she was told "no one need ever know what happened to you here. We can do anything we want to and sometimes it is more fun getting things out of a woman."

"You left types always want to go on about how you are people and not women — well, you had better not forget you are a woman and there are a whole lot of us here."

Present

Detective/Sergeant Meyer told the court she was present at 10.30 pm on August 11 when Miss Mohamed was arrested at the home of her parents.

She then accompanied her and other security men to John Vorster Square where she remained "the whole time" with Miss Mohamed "from before

midnight to sunrise" when she took the suspect to the Norwood police cells.

At no time in her presence did members of the security police address Miss Mohamed in an untoward manner, she said.

Alone

"We are not alleging that you assaulted or did anything to Miss Mohamed" the defence said to the witness, but added it would be claimed that it was also said to Miss Mohamed "that there is no one who can help you. Now you are alone."

In reply the policemen retorted: "She would probably say so — there are many allegations made against the police and the majority of them are completely untrue."

The trial continues today before Mr H Oosthuizen, with Mr A van Wyk prosecuting. The students are represented by Mr D de la Hunt SC, together with Mr M Bassilion, instructed by Priscilla Jana and Associates.

Trial Postponed

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 2

[Text]

THE trial of four University of the Witwatersrand students charged with participation in communist activities was postponed yesterday to Monday after seven days of evidence.

Mr Benjamin Greyling (20), Miss Elaine Rose Mohamed (20), Mr Michael O'Donovan (21) and Mr Leslie Lax (23) have pleaded not guilty.

The Johannesburg Regional Court is still hearing evidence regarding admissibility of statements made by certain of the accused.

Threats

The defence claims they were pressured into making admissions by threats of detention under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act.

Yesterday Warrant/Officer W Smith of the Security Branch explained to the court that all complaints made by detainees were investigated by persons not connected with the Security Branch.

In the instance of Mr Greyling, a complaint had been made to a doctor, a magistrate who checked on the welfare of detainees and an inspector of prisons.

Promise

W/O Smith said he had no personal knowledge of any assault on Mr Greyling and promised to ascertain how far the inquiry into the alleged assault had progressed. He himself had at no time inquired whether the detainees had any complaints as he felt detainees had the opportunity of airing their grievances to the three officials to whom Mr Greyling had complained.

Before the postponement, the magistrate, Mr H Oosthuisen, indicated that the trial was expected to continue for a month.

CSO: 4700/753

PAGEVIEW INDIANS MUST MOVE BEFORE FEBRUARY 28

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 3

[Text] Pageview's Indian residents who have not moved out of the area voluntarily by the end of this month will be forcibly removed by officers of the Department of Community Development--but the removal date is being kept a secret.

Mr Dirk Rossouw, the department's Johannesburg regional representative, said yesterday the department would evict the remaining residents without further notices being issued "because that is the legal position."

He declined to say how or when the removals would take place.

"We have to remove the residents who persist in remaining, but I sincerely hope they will co-operate with us and move before the end of the month, as forcibly removing them is not a pleasant matter."

Some Pageview residents have consistently refused to move from the suburb, now declared a White area by the Government, saying the alternative housing offered in Lenasia is unsuitable.

The also say that being asked to travel 70 km to work and back every day is unreasonable and beyond their means.

The Save Pageview Association has recommended that the remaining families move to Fordsburg--when and if the Government declares Fordsburg an Indian area. The declaration has to be made by the Group Areas Board which will meet in March.

According to the SPA there are 93 families remaining in Pageview. However, the Department of Community Development says there are only 50 families still living in the suburb.

CSO: 4700/753

BRIEFS

INTERNATIONAL WATERSKIERS EVENT—South Africa is to host an international barefoot waterskiing event at the Riviera Aquatic Club in Vereeniging on April 2. A team of eight international skiers will be competing against an eight-man Springbok team to be announced after the Northern Transvaal championships to be held at the Bon Accord Dam in Pretoria shortly. The inter-provincial championships, held during the weekend at Hazelmere Dam in Natal, were won by Southern Transvaal, who beat Natal by a small margin. It is the first time in four years that Southern Transvaal has won an overall trophy at the championships. The B division was won by Natal, and the C division by the Northern Cape. The Natal championships were also held at the weekend, and the A division was won by Gary Neiman and the junior division by Paul Ephron. In the inter-provincials, two Group Two records were broken by Avril Tucker, namely in the tricks and slalom events. Group Two comprises Europe, the UK, the eastern countries and South Africa. Mike Higgs and Chris Harris are the new joint record holders for the men's slalom event. These records are subject to ratification by the world governing body for the sport. Gary Neiman broke his own tricks record of 1 540 points by 500 points, with a total of 2 040 points. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 12]

GOODS TO POLAND—A second consignment of goods and medical equipment, valued at R17 000, is being loaded aboard the Swedish vessel, Knorsen, in the Durban harbour for Poland. A spokesman for the Natal branch of the Polish Relief Committee said in Pietermaritzburg yesterday, that the Roman Catholic Church in Poland had undertaken to distribute the goods and medical equipment to those in need in Poland. She said that the response from the Natal public to the fund had been magnificent. Many firms had donated goods and private individuals had also contributed to the fund. The value of the present consignment was almost double that of a previous consignment sent to Poland in January. She said she wanted to assure the public that the Roman Catholic Church had given a firm undertaking that he would only distribute the goods from SA to those people who were really desperate in Poland. The Natal Committee will now receive goods and contributions for a third consignment. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 12]

HELICOPTER SQUADRON BASE—The newly-formed SAAF helicopter squadron 31 will be based at Hoedspruit, according to the SAAF publication Ad Astra. The new unit, commanded by Commandant J B West, consists of a flight of Puma helicopters and a flight of Alouette III machines. It is the Air Force's intention to have helicopter bases all over the country. The original 31 Squadron was involved in coastal reconnaissance during the initial stages of World War II. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 9]

CAPE PROVINCE SURPLUS--Cape Town--The Cape Provincial Administration closed off the 1980/81 financial year with a surplus of R19 105 000 the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, announced yesterday when he tabled the 1982 Additional Budget Draft Ordinance. It had been envisaged that the 1980/81 year would be closed with a surplus of R11 109 000 but an extra R7 996 000 was added thanks to continued strong discipline Mr Louw said. Expenditure was R12 531 000 less than expected while income was R6 574 000 more than projected. For the current financial year, 1981/82, the revised estimated expenditure should be R1 188,243-million which is an increase of R30,97 million on the original budget. The revised total income for this year should be R1 169,138-million which would result in a shortfall of R19 105 000. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 5]

RTZM SPREADS WINGS--Rio Tinto Mining (Zimbabwe) is to refine 4 200 tons a year of nickel copper matte produced by BCL of Botswana at its Selibe-Pikwe complex. In a statement it said refining had begun and was proceeding smoothly. The agreement will enable RTMZ to run its refinery at full capacity despite declining production at Empress Nickel Mine and will reduce unit costs at the group's base metals refinery at Eiffel Flats, near Gatooma in the Zimbabwe midlands. BCL will benefit in being able to meet the request of its contractual refiner--AMX Nickel--for a 25 percent reduction in matte shipments this year. The agreement is in line with the objectives of regional co-operation of the Zimbabwe and Botswana governments. RTMZ reports a pre-tax profit of Z\$1,7-million (Z\$7,8-million) in 1981. Earnings were 6,8 cents (29,8c) and a final dividend of 3c (7c) makes 3c (16). Pre-tax profit includes a loss of Z\$11-million by Empress, and profits were adversely affected by the lower gold price and reduced nickel and copper output from Empress. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 21]

SAFMARINE DOES WELL--South African Marine Corporation (Safmarine) increased its earnings before non-recurring revenue in the six months ended December 1981 by 44,4 percent from 36c to 52c a share. The company said imports had begun to slow down in line with trends in the international trade, and this would affect results in the second half of the year. Apart from this, the results for the year should show a "reasonable" increase, the company says. Turnover for the six months improved just over 40 percent, amounting to R368-million (R262-million). Profit from trading operations grew at a much lower rate of 22 percent and amounted to R71-million (R58,4-million). Profits from the sale of ships and equipment was also higher at R2,6-million (R0,7-million). Depreciation charges and interest took up more or less the same amount (R29,5-million against R28,6-million) which left the company with a profit before taxation of R44,1-million (R30,5-million). Taxation was substantially higher at R16,7-million (R11,5-million). After-tax profit before non-recurring items increased from R19-million to R27,4-million. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 19]

LENGENE ABDUCTION--The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, yesterday confirmed that the Botswana Minister of External Affairs, Mr Archie Mogwe, had contacted him in connection with the alleged abduction of Mr Peter Lengene, a former executive member of the SOWETO SRC [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 2]

SQUATTERS' DUNE FLATTENED--A bulldozer yesterday flattened the sand dune at Nyanga, near Crossroads, on which a group of squatters have lived since November. About 60 squatters were deported to Transkei last Wednesday, but returned to the sand dune at the weekend. Squatters said police warned them about 9:30 am that a bulldozer was being brought there because they were not allowed to remain on the dune. The bulldozer arrived about five minutes later and they watched as it flattened the dune. The bulldozer was accompanied by Administration Board Officials, armed inspectors, officials of the Department of Co-operation and Development and police. Mr Timo Bezuidenhout, Chief Commissioner in the Western Cape, said the dune was being levelled by the administration board to make a soccer field for people living nearby. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 8]

FERTILIZER DEAL OFF--The proposed merger of the fertilizer interests of Fedmis, a full subsidiary of Sentrachem, and Triomf Fertilizer Investments is off. This was announced yesterday in a very brief statement by the two parties. The managing-director of Sentrachem, Dave Marlow, refused to make any further comments yesterday on the reason why. He pointed out that the proposed merger could have been to the benefit of both parties because of rationalisation. Mr Marlow said the fertilizer business was capital intensive, apart from which prices were controlled by the Government. The result was very low margins on capital investments. He said if the merger had gone through, the two companies would have in a better position to compete against imports, sometimes brought in at much lower prices than the local product. Asked whether the merger would not have led to the formation of a monopoly, Mr Marlow said he doubted this as the price of local fertilizers couldn't be fixed by an individual company. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 19]

SAAU REACTION--The SA Agricultural Union welcomed the announcement that Fedmis and Triomf had decided to discontinue the consolidation of their fertiliser interests, the president of the union, Mr Jaap Wilkens, said yesterday. In a statement in Pretoria he said the proposed merger, "which could give rise to a monopolistic situation", would have had serious effects on the agricultural sector and therefore had to be opposed. Sentrachem's decision not to erect another nitrogen plant could also hold serious implications for the agricultural sector in the long term, and the SAAU would make a submission to the Government in this respect "as soon as possible". "Factors which are of concern are the long-term prospects regarding the availability and price of imported nitrogen, the desirability of depending on imports to meet a large portion of South Africa's nitrogen requirements, and the manner in which additional domestic needs will be met," Mr Wilkens said. At present the union was making far-reaching plans to protect the long-term interests of the South African agricultural producer. The union had also insisted that the Minister of Industries, Commerce and Tourism should "immediately make available" to the union the Pretorius Committee report on the price structure of the fertiliser industry. "This will enable the union to make the necessary decisions on this strategic matter if it has all the available information at its disposal," he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 13]

VERSTER REFUSED APPEAL--The Appeal Court has refused Johann Freiderich Verster of Dundee leave to appeal against his conviction and sentences for participating in terrorist activities and conspiracy to murder. He was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment on each of the charges with the sentences to run concurrently. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 16 Feb 82 p 8]

VISITS TO BRAZIL PERMITTED--South Africans are to allowed to visit Brazil in their individual capacities to attend the world congress of the International Advertising Association in Sao Paolo next May. This was announced today by Mr Jack Sibert, vice-president of the South African Chapter of the IAA. He said the Brazilian Government had made this decision after representations by the Brazilian Consulate in South Africa and other parties, and for no other reason. Mr Sibert said this was a hopeful sign for South Africa's relations with Brazil, a country that has previously denied South Africans visas to attend seminars and conferences. The congress lasts from May 24 to 28. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 17 Feb 82 p 11]

CSO: 4700/753

INCREASING UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM REPORTED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 82 p 11

[Text] Soveriegn head of state, King Sobhuza II, said Swaziland faced a growing unemployment problem which was bound to reach crisis proportions unless steps were taken.

King Sobhuza warned that the country faced a serious economic crisis which required urgent solutions, in a speech read on his behalf by the Minister for Education, Canon Sithetse Dlamini, at the official opening of the Fourth session of Parliament on Tuesday.

The king outlined the plan of action which will pull the country through the recession.

The role of the rural sector was to be increased to create jobs in these communities.

Food production programmes were to be revitalised. These would not only create jobs, but also rechannel financial resources that are currently spent on food imports into more productive investment within Swaziland.

King Sobhuza said Parliament would undertake "a thorough survey of existing problems and make recommendations.

"In an effort to maintain the momentum of national development the government will undertake several projects in the coming months aimed at improving the country's transport facilities," said the King.

In the mining sector, there would be intensive exploration of coal reserves, to establish their extent and value.

There were socio-economic factors that hampered increased production of food. These included lack of meaningful progress in the resettlement of rural homesteads in order to "bring about more systematic utilisation of land resources."

On the political scene, the king condemned the attempted mercenary coup which was foiled in the Seychelles. This was the first official comment by Swaziland's head of state since the attempted coup last November.

"We learnt with a sense of extreme shock that a group of mercenaries masquerading as passengers had used our national airline as facilities for launching acts of aggression against the Seychelles, a sister African country. As a peaceloving nation, we believe in good neighbourliness and respect for the sovereignty of other nations," said King Sobhuza.

CSO: 4700/753

SITUATION OF ACHOLIS, VARIOUS POLITICAL GROUPS NOTED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 3, 3 Feb 82 p 7

[Text]

The arrest shortly before Christmas of Lt. Col. Peter Oboma, the leading Acholi military figure in the opposition *Uganda Freedom Movement* (UFM), gave the Obote government its biggest guerrilla catch so far. One account says that Oboma had covertly entered Kampala on 20 December with his second in command, Capt. Agile, to organise a coup for Christmas day. From a hideout in Nakawa, three miles to the east of the city, they contacted Capt. Ojera, the Acholi commander of the Malire regiment which is billeted in the former palace of King Freddie of Buganda. It was agreed that Oboma and Ojera would meet in Mengo, on the other side of the city. Ojera, however, arrived at the rendezvous with several soldiers and arrested Oboma. Other accounts, including that of Oboma's wife, say that he returned to Uganda having received assurances from the government that he would be safe.

In any event on the nights of December 21 and 22 there was a lot of shooting between Acholi troops in the *Uganda National Liberation Army* (UNLA) and Langi and Iteso troops who are pro-Obote. It appears that the Acholis were overpowered without difficulty. Confident that further Acholi disturbance could be dealt with quickly, Obote and Paulo Muwanga, the vice-president apparently decided to arrest Maj. Gen. Tito Okello (the Acholi commander-in-chief of UNLA) and Lt. Col. Basilio Obara Okello (the Acholi commander of the 15th battalion). As it turned out they were reportedly only put under house arrest, guarded by Langi troops. However, we are sceptical that Tito Okello was under house arrest for long, if at all.

For several months now Obote has relied on the support of Iteso troops in UNLA. When relations between the Langi and the Acholi went on the boil last year (AC Vol 22 No 19), UNLA started a crash training course for Iteso recruits, hastily gathered from Ateso province in the east. It will be recalled that Obote's *Uganda People's Congress* took all the parliamentary seats in Ateso. There are also three Iteso cabinet ministers: Peter Otai, minister of state for defence, David Anyoti, minister of informa-

tion, and Stephen Ariko, attorney-general and minister of justice.

The merging last December of the main opposition strands into the *Uganda Popular Front* has yet to tangibly increase the pressure on Obote. We are highly sceptical of the chances of working relationships being formed between all of these strands (the *National Resistance Movement* (NRM), the *Uganda National Rescue Front* (UNRF) and the UFM). If B.K. Kirya, chairman of the UFM and the elder-statesman of the UPF, stands to gain the alliance some respect, Yusuf Lule can at best hope that Moses Ali of UNRF, and even Yoweri Museveni of Lule's NRM, keep their anti-Lule (and Binabala) feelings to themselves. Given Ali's long-standing aim of joining forces with the NRM (AC Vol 22 No 15), it is unlikely that he will risk his relationships within the UPF at such an early stage. The contentious issue of Ali's links with former president Idi Amin, who resides comfortably in Jeddah, could cause ructions again, especially if Muammar Gaddafi decided to rekindle his links with Amin.

Otherwise the Libyan connection is the single most potent unifying factor in the UPF alliance. Libya has recently financed minor arms purchases for probably all three UPF elements. Gaddafi may water-down his hospitality to Obote's opposition once he becomes chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Meanwhile, with Libyan dollars in their pockets, UPF potentates can be expected to be modest buyers in the international arms market.

If UNLA manages to indefinitely thwart UPF activity, the attraction for Gaddafi of supporting UPF will obviously diminish. A consequence could be more Libyan support for Ali's UNRF in West Nile district. Although UNRF stands no chance of leading any future national movements — and it appears that Obote's military commanders have decided to seal off West Nile and let the district remain under UNRF control — Ali's forces are particularly well-placed for extending Libyan influence in the Central African Republic, southern Chad, southern Sudan and Zaïre.

CSO: 4700/806

RF FACES SPLIT IN RANKS

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 8

[Text]

SALISBURY. — The former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr Ian Smith, said yesterday that Zimbabwe's Republican Front Party would meet next week to discuss a rift in its ranks which could lead to some Members of Parliament quitting the party.

He told reporters that his party's caucus would meet on Thursday following recent dissatisfaction by some Members of Parliament over party policies.

"One or two members have expressed the view that they could perform better outside the party," he said. "We have those who lean a bit to the right and a bit to the left."

Party sources said that at least five, and perhaps as many as 12, RF MPs were considering either dropping their party affiliations and continuing in Parliament as independents or quitting politics completely.

Mr Chris Andersen, a Salisbury lawyer who represents the capital's Mount Pleasant suburb in Parliament, said "more than a handful of members was involved."

"We feel the party is no longer typical of White views and attitudes in a changing Zimbabwe," he said.

The RF holds all 20 of the constitutionally-guaranteed White seats in Zimbabwe's 100-seat Lower House of Assembly.

Of the remainder, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF Party holds 57, Zanu-PF's former junior coalition partner Zapu has 20 and the United African National Council of ex-Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa holds three.

A major split in the RF ranks could end Mr Smith's 18-year domination of White politics in the country.

CSO: 4700/814

PROTECTING OIL FLOW ASSURED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 10

[Text] Bulawayo--Mozambique had the military capability to ensure that the flow of oil through the pipeline from Beira to Zimbabwe was not interrupted by saboteurs, the Mozambican Minister of Information, Mr Jose Luis Cabaco, said in Bulawayo on Tuesday night.

Mr Cabaco said, after a tour of Bulawayo's industries, no one could say there would be no acts of sabotage aimed at disrupting the flow of oil to Zimbabwe.

"So, with this in mind, no one, I believe, can say the same will not be done in Mozambique.

"What I can say is that we have the military capability to ensure that the flow of oil from Mozambique is maintained without interruption."

Mr Cabaco said proof of this was that the Mozambique rail link with Zimbabwe continued to work smoothly in the face of sporadic acts of sabotage by members of the so-called Mozambique resistance movement.

The Minister said the MRM was not a political danger to the government of President Samora Machel "but merely a long arm of the racist regime in South Africa."

On his visit to Zimbabwe, Mr Cabaco said a co-operation agreement between the two countries had been reviewed with the aim of consolidation.

CSO: 4700/814

BULAWAYO FARMER HELD IN PROBE OF VARKEVISSEER DISAPPEARANCE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 25 Feb 82 p 15

[Text]

DURBAN. — A farmer in the Bulawayo district, Mr Colin Bickle, is being held by the Zimbabwe police in connection with the disappearance late last year of Detective-Inspector Fred Varkevisser and Captain Pat Gericke.

Mr Bickle, who played a major part during the terrorist war in helping security forces spot terrorist hide-outs with his light aircraft was detained on his farm at the weekend or on Monday and was taken by the Security Branch to a prison near Salisbury. The Zimbabwe police flatly refused yesterday to comment on his detention. But from other sources

it was learnt that Mr Bickle had been questioned late last month about the disappearance of Insp Varkevisser — a Salisbury police officer — and Capt Gericke, a Bulawayo explosives expert.

Both men disappeared from Zimbabwe after it was alleged that Capt Gericke, who was also being held by the Zimbabwe police, had been "sprung" from a Salisbury prison.

The Security Branch believed both men were flown over the Zimbabwe border into South Africa.

Insp Varkevisser's family also disappeared.

CSO: 4700/814

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